

Tebbit heads party choice as next leader

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

Mr Norman Tebbit, the Conservative Party chairman, has re-emerged as a strong favourite among Conservative MPs to succeed Mrs Margaret Thatcher as party leader, according to a new poll. He is the favourite too for the role among voters of all parties.

According to the poll evidence Mr Kenneth Baker, a much-favoured candidate among the political cognoscenti after his widely acclaimed first few months as Secretary of State for Education and Science, is simply not in the contest as far as the party rank and file are concerned.

The MORI poll, to be published in this week's *Economist*, shows that 38 per cent of Conservative supporters would like Mr Tebbit as their next leader, compared with 16 per cent who favour Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, and 14 per cent who favour Mr Michael Heseltine, the former Secretary of State for Defence, who resigned from Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet a year ago.

The poll's findings will come as a surprise to many Conservative MPs who had lately felt that Mr Tebbit's star was on the wane.

There has been criticism at

Westminster that the party chairman's much-publicized attacks on the BBC have diverted attention from more important subjects and there was a noticeable cooling between him and the Prime Minister, later patched up, in the middle of last year.

But Mr Tebbit's battles seem to have improved his popularity, rather than harming it.

When voters were asked a slightly different question in October on who, if Mrs Thatcher were to be removed, would make them more likely to vote Conservative if chosen in her place, Mr Heseltine led the field with 32 per cent to Mr Tebbit's 20 per cent.

The Tory chairman will now play a key role in what everyone expects to be an election year and can only become more popular with the Tory rank and file if, as the polls now indicate is likely, the Tories succeed in winning a third election.

Although it is Tory MPs rather than party supporters who actually choose the leader they will be bound to take such feelings into account in their choice.

In the new poll the level of support among all voters was 21 per cent for Mr Tebbit, 15 per cent for Sir Geoffrey Howe, and 16 per cent for Mr Heseltine.

A total of 1,914 adults at 170 constituency sampling points was asked: "Which of the politicians on this list would you most like to see replace Mrs Thatcher as the next leader of the Conservative Party?" The sample included 614 Conservative supporters.

Asked if they would prefer the Alliance to allow the Labour Party or the Conservatives to lead a new government if there were an election tomorrow, 34 per cent of Alliance supporters said they would prefer the Conservative option, 35 per cent said they would prefer the Alliance to back Labour and 31 per cent were split between saying they would prefer neither option or did not know.

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Students rally in centre of Peking

Peking (Reuters) — More than 2,000 students marched towards the city centre from Peking's university quarter yesterday, demanding the release of colleagues detained by police at a protest rally on Wednesday, witnesses said.

One student said they were heading for Tiananmen, the square where Wednesday's banned demonstration for greater democracy was finally broken up by police who say they seized 15 demonstrators. A man calling himself the Vice-President of the elite Peking University told the crowd the authorities would do their best to free those detained.

Earlier, the President of the University, Mr Ding Shisun had asked for two hours to give a reply to the students' demands, which some witnesses said was backed up by threat of a classroom strike.

The face of those held is unclear as the official Government news agency issued two different statements.

One quoted the Public Security Bureau as saying that major troublemakers would be punished, but a city official said that a few ringleaders were being held for interrogation and education.

So far no known prosecutions have been launched against any student involved in the month-long protest movement that has erupted in at least 12 Chinese cities.

Yesterday the students were joined by several hundred others from the nearby People's University. They marched arm-in-arm, 30 abreast, alternately chanting "Return our students" and singing the socialist hymn.

Tiananmen — the Square of the Gate of Heavenly Peace — is a windswept plain of concrete that has seen bloodshed, revolution and frenzy.

It has been at the centre of some of the most historic events in China this century, including the proclamation of the People's Republic in 1949 by Mao Tse-tung.

Peking arrests, page 7



Mr Bergman: no basis to the spy charges levelled by the Indian Government, they had no evidence

Bhopal Briton returns

By Chris Steyn

A young British law graduate who was arrested for spying while doing relief work in India for victims of the Bhopal gas disaster was reunited with his parents in London yesterday.

Mr David Bergman, aged 21, arrived on an Air India flight from Bombay at Heathrow Airport to be met by his parents.

His mother said: "I'm delighted to see him. I think he looks fantastic and I am very, very proud of him in every possible way."

The Supreme Court of India recently ordered the Government to drop all charges against Mr Bergman. He was arrested in September last year for allegedly possessing copies of secret Government documents on the effects of toxic methyl isocyanate gas on humans and the environment.

He told *The Times* that there was no basis to the charges against him. "They merely said that I was a spy but they had absolutely no evidence," he said.

Mr Bergman accused the Indian Government of "continually trying to disturb and harass" volunteer workers.

He claimed that the disaster was no accident. "It was in many ways a conscious, mediated thing... it came about through total callousness due to a desire for profits," he said.

Volunteers who were taking "a certain independent stance" had become a threat to the Government.

By the end of the day there was no agreement reached which is why Eden says in Cabinet the next morning that

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Aids campaign extends to TV and leafleting

By Jill Sherman

The first government leaflets giving detailed information on the risks of catching Aids will be pushed through millions of letter boxes on January 12.

The leaflet drop to 23 million households will be preceded by television advertisements on either Wednesday or Thursday next week.

The distribution of the leaflets, which is expected to take up to two weeks, will coincide with a cinema advertising campaign also starting on January 12. A second phase of television advertising will follow at the end of the month.

This new stage of the Government's £20 million education campaign on Aids is expected to be launched next week by Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, to ensure additional media coverage.

The leaflets will reiterate messages in the Government's poster, radio and magazine campaign, and are unlikely to be more explicit. "We will be as explicit as we feel is necessary to get the message across," a Department of Health and Social Security spokesman said.

Yesterday the DHSS, doctors and Aids organizations were heartened by findings of a MORI poll commissioned by *The Times*, which indicates that people are beginning to change their sexual habits to protect themselves from Aids.

According to the poll 26 per cent of single men and women aged 18 to 29 are now more likely to use a condom, and 42 per cent of married couples are less likely to have affairs.

Most of the 1,093 adults polled also knew that the disease could be spread homosexually, heterosexually and through hyperdermic syringes. But the findings also showed that 50 per cent of the poll thought that Aids could be transmitted by saliva and significant numbers were less likely to give mouth-to-mouth resuscitation or help accident victims.

Specialists warned that the public needs more detailed information both about how the disease is spread and how to gain maximum protection. Mr John Fitzpatrick, of the Terrence Higgins Trust, said: "The results are encouraging."

They seem to show that the message is getting through to a substantial proportion of the population.

"Now we need to refine this information so that people have a deeper knowledge of Aids. There is no evidence that Aids can be transmitted through saliva or through mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. People with Aids are not lepers."

Dr John Galloway, a genitourinary physician at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, pointed out that although the public was becoming more aware of Aids it was those least at risk who were now changing their behaviour.

Dr Galloway holds a weekly special clinic to offer advice to people in high-risk groups or practising high-risk behaviour. "But those who come are typically couples who have been faithful to each other for three years and are worried about previous affairs."

Those who are promiscuous are not changing their behaviour, he said. The people who come to his sexually transmitted diseases (STD) clinic are not those that attend the special Aids clinic.

"Prostitutes or women from escort agencies come to the STD clinic and are amazed that they are at risk. These people never think it will happen to them."

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Tomorrow

Saving the game



1987

The players get their say in our series on the state of football, with Gordon Taylor, leader of the players' 'union', citing hooliganism and the exodus of stars abroad as the main problems to be faced in 1987.

Football 1987

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1956 Suez crisis

Selwyn Lloyd in secret talks

By Michael Evans and Geoffrey Warner

Sir Donald Logan, one of the key figures involved in top secret meetings with the Israelis at the time of the 1956 Suez crisis, yesterday gave his personal account of the affair after Cabinet papers released under the 30-year rule failed to shed new light on the collusion between Britain, France and Israel over military operations against Egypt.

There is no mention in the Cabinet minutes of October 22 1956 that Mr Selwyn Lloyd, who was then foreign secretary, and Sir Donald Logan, who was then his assistant private secretary, had flown on an RAF flight from Hendon to meet top Israeli and French ministers at a villa in Sevre, near Paris, the previous day.

Sir Donald, who, although a relatively junior official at the time, was part of the highly secret and controversial negotiations with Israel. Yesterday he provided hitherto unpublished details of the extraordinary steps taken by Sir Anthony Eden, who was then prime minister, to prevent the secret meetings from

becoming public knowledge at the time.

Although details of the controversial Suez agreement, which involved collusion with Israel to justify the Anglo-French intervention against Colonel Nasser, have appeared in several published

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accident — for which my driving was not responsible."

The near collision took place in France as they pair were being driven very fast by a French officer from the Villacoublay military airfield, outside Paris, to the private villa owned by a well-known French family, the Bonnier de La Chapelle, in Rue Emanuel, Paris 16.

The British pair held discussions all that day with the Israeli and French. On the Israeli side there was David Ben-Gurion, the then prime minister, Staff General Moshe Dayan, then Israeli chief of staff, and Mr Shimon Peres, then director-general of the Ministry of Defence and now Foreign Minister. The French side included the M Guy Mollet, then prime minister, Mr Christian Pineau, then foreign minister, and M Maurice Bourgeois-Mauoury, then defence minister.

By the end of the day there was no agreement reached which is why Eden says in Cabinet the next morning that

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NEWS SUMMARY

Samantha case man charged

Peter Johan Chmilkowski, aged 30, has been charged with the kidnapping of Miss Samantha Ettridge, aged 17, from Cheshunt, Hertfordshire.

Chmilkowski, unemployed, of Berkshire Gardens, Palmers Green, north London, will appear at Cheshunt Magistrates' Court today.

It is alleged that on December 25 last year "within the jurisdiction of the Central Criminal Court" Mr Chmilkowski "did take away by force Samantha Jane Ettridge against her will with the intent to have unlawful sexual intercourse with her contrary to Section 1(17) of the Sexual Offences Act of 1956".

Mr Chmilkowski had previously been remanded by the court. He appeared before Cheshunt magistrates on Wednesday accused of abducting another teenager two weeks ago. He was charged with taking away Miss Catherine Ainger from Wood Green, north London, against her will with the intent of having sexual intercourse with her.

Man dies Joyrider killed

A middle-aged man was dragged two miles to his death underneath a car early yesterday.

He is thought to have been celebrating the new year and was lying in Green Lane, Small Heath, Birmingham, when he was hit by a Mini which had been stolen from a public house near by.

West Midlands Police said that the car was found abandoned two miles away with the man's body underneath. They appealed for witnesses of the accident or the car's journey to contact them urgently.

Seaman protest call

Mr John Carlisle, Conservative MP for Luton North, yesterday called on Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, to protest "in the strongest possible terms" to the east African countries which refused admission to a critically ill coloured seaman because he had a South African passport.

Mr Carlisle, secretary of the all-party British-South Africa parliamentary group, said: "This is an appalling story of sheer, breathtaking inhumanity."

Revel Langerfeldt, a steward, aged 20, is recovering in St Thomas's Hospital, London.

In good heart...

Mrs Davina Thompson (right), the first person to receive a new heart, lungs and liver in one operation, has been riding an exercise bike at Papworth Hospital's gymnasium.

"She even managed to walk up and down eight steps, which she could not manage before," Mrs Janice Thompson, her sister-in-law, said yesterday.

Mrs Thompson's husband Peter, aged 30, and their daughter Stephanie, aged nine, travelled from their home in Rammarsh, South Yorkshire, to Papworth to celebrate the New Year.

Miners' MP lobby

Miners' leaders were urging their members yesterday to attend a vital meeting to help choose a successor to Mr Roy Mason, MP for Barnsley Central.

Mr Mason, who is sponsored by the National Union of Mineworkers, has announced that he will retire at the next general election.

Mr Sam Thompson, the Yorkshire NUM's general secretary, has written to members, who are in the middle of their Christmas break, trying them to attend to support Mr Eric Illsley, a NUM office worker, and the union's left-wing candidate.

Mr Illsley's main rival is Mr Ronnie Fisher, a leading moderate councillor in Barnsley.

By Our Political Editor

Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment, has emerged as a clear favourite among senior ministers to succeed Lord Whitelaw as Leader of the House of Lords if the Conservatives win the next general election.

There is also speculation that Mrs Margaret Thatcher might give him Lord Whitelaw's other role as deputy Prime Minister.

Young is favourite to lead the Lords

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The probable election year of 1987 has opened with the Conservatives in a clear lead in the opinion polls which they are apparently consolidating. But despite the growing excitement in the Conservative Party about the possibility of an early election, the present poll evidence still suggests that the most likely outcome would be a hung Parliament with no party in an overall majority.

There were 73 opinion polls conducted in 1986. Labour had the lead in 37 of them, the Conservatives in 12 and they were level in four others. But only two of those polls would have given the Conservatives an overall majority and only 10, all in the first half of 1986, would have given Labour a clear majority if repeated at a general election.

The Conservative progress can be measured clearly in the period after this year's party conferences. An arithmetical average of the eight opinion polls conducted in October showed party fortunes as Conservatives 38 per cent, Labour 40 per cent, SDP/Liberal Alliance 20 per cent and others 2 per cent.

The eight polls conducted in November saw the turn round to Conservatives 39.5 per cent, Labour 38.5 per cent, Alliance 19.5 per cent and others 2.5 per cent.

That was then consolidated, with the five polls conducted in December showing the Conservatives at 40 per cent, Labour at 38 per cent, the Alliance at 20 per cent and others at 2 per cent.

The last three polls published put the Conservatives at 41 per cent and the latest, by Gallup, taken between December 10 and 15, showed a huge gap opening between the two main parties and Labour slumping to 32.5 per cent.

Many poll organizers and politicians have assumed that the Gallup poll was a rogue one. But it is so far the only poll reported after Mr Neil Kinnock's much-criticized trip to the United States and after Labour's highly-publicized relaunch of its unilateralist defence policy.

Senior figures in all parties will therefore be watching the first polls of 1987 with keen interest to see if Labour's slide is accelerating. The first indication is expected to be a MORI poll in *The Sunday Times* this weekend.

What those Conservatives who are urging Mrs Thatcher into an early spring election seem to have failed to note is that even if the Conservatives were to score 41 per cent of the vote in a general election that would only result in a hung Parliament unless Labour's vote were to slip a good deal further.

A general election in which the Conservatives scored 41 per cent of the vote and Labour 38 per cent would leave Mrs Thatcher seven seats short of an overall majority at 319 seats. Labour with 294, the Alliance with 15 and others with 22.

If the Alliance recovery, which is just beginning to be indicated in the polls, were to continue at the Government's expense and if the Tories were therefore to drop to 38 per cent of the vote, then Labour's vote would have to fall to 32 per cent before the Conservatives could be sure of an overall majority.

With by-elections now pending in Greenwich and Truro, the first opinion polls of the new year will have a crucial effect on party morale, especially in the Labour Party. That is how the polls have gone over the past two months.

Lord Whitelaw, whose key role in the Thatcher years has been much underwritten, will retire after the election.

Lord Gowrie, who was being groomed as his successor, decided that he could not afford to live on a minister's salary and left the Government. Baroness Young, who was dropped from the Cabinet, is not believed to be close enough to the Prime Minister to become the first female Leader of the Lords.

Most of the peers who will be created in the dissolution honours list from among Mrs Thatcher's former Cabinet ministers are those whom she dropped because she did not see eye to eye with them.

There is some support for the idea that Sir Humphrey Atkins, the former Chief Whip, would make an effective Leader of the Lords. There have also been suggestions that Mrs Thatcher might elevate Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, to the peerage and give him the role.

However Mr Ridley is reckoned to be in the chance of becoming the next Chancellor of the Exchequer and would hardly welcome the move at this stage. Thus opinion is hardening among ministers, therefore, that the role will go to Lord Young.

There are several advantages for Mrs Thatcher in promoting Lord Young.

More men attracted by Church ministry

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The latest clergy recruitment figures published today show that the Church of England is beginning to recover from the long, slow slide in manpower of the last two decades.

For the fourth year in succession there has been a rise in the number of men selected for training for the full-time ministry.

This will not immediately reverse the downward trend in the number of clergy, caused by the gradual retirement of men who trained more than 40 years ago when the rate of recruitment was much higher. But it has caused the church authorities to consider, for the first time in many years, increasing the number of posts available to curates.

The 364 men recommended for training by the selection system in 1986 is 17 more than in 1985, and 61 more than in 1983. As a result some theological colleges are already fully booked for the next academic year, and others are filling up fast.

There were also increases in the number of women training for full-time church work, and in the number of men volunteering for the non-stipendiary (unpaid part-time) priesthood.

It is anticipated that nearly all the 86 women accepted for training last year will eventually be ordained as deacons, under the new measure approved by Parliament. Many of those would, in turn, be eligible for ordination to the priesthood if the Church eventually approves it.

The numbers known to be asking for consideration for training this year indicates a continuation of the upward trend. Of those completing training in 1986, 325 were ordained as stipendiary clergy, a rise of 7 per cent on the previous year.

The church's senior selection secretary, the Rev Graham James, called it "an encouraging overall situation."

RUC warning of more violence from the IRA

Ulster police said yesterday that more violence is on the way. Security sources in Belfast believe recent Provisional IRA bomb attacks, after months of relative inactivity, are due to increasing tension between it and its political ally Provisional Sinn Féin.

This comes after the recent Dublin road from South of Newry to the border was closed yesterday after the Irish National Liberation Army had warned that it had abandoned a primed bomb there.

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Walker urges revival of Macmillan policies

By Our Political Editor

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday used a new year message to his constituents to urge the Conservative Party to adopt the "one nation" policies of the late Earl of Stockton.

Mr Walker was, by implication, once again making it clear that he stands for Macmillanism rather than Thatcherism, even in its new free-spending form.

Two of Macmillan's three great aims, Mr Walker said, had been the achievement of peace through strength, which meant fighting the unilateral disarmers of his time, and the achievement of a united Europe.

"His third great purpose was to unite our nation and to make sure that we did not suffer from two nations, one employed, and one unemployed, a prosperous South and a poor North," Mr Walker told his constituents in Worcester.

He said that as the parties prepared for a General Election these were still the great purposes of politics and only the Tory party could fulfil them.

Only the Conservatives believed in a strong Western Alliance; they were united as the pro-European party; and only a party which believed in free enterprise could secure an economy "in which everybody is employed and prosperity is assured".

The Tory government must pursue policies over the next five years which would ensure that free enterprise was encouraged to defeat foreign competition, and that new enterprises would be introduced in areas with the highest unemployment.

Mr Walker, who has mastered the art of indicating a difference in emphasis between his opinions and those of Mrs Thatcher without actually fracturing Cabinet unity, has made a number of speeches in recent years, notably at fringe meetings during the Conservative party conference, on Macmillanite "middle way" themes.

The full story of the visit, including some hilarious conversations between Khrushchev and British leaders, is disclosed in the Cabinet and Foreign Office records released yesterday under the 30-year rule.

Cancellation of the visit was considered after Khrushchev and Bulganin made a series of anti-British speeches about colonialism during a tour of India and Burma. The Marquess of Salisbury, Lord President, was all for calling it off.

It was nearly cancelled before it began, yet when it was all over, Sir Anthony Eden, the Prime Minister, breathed a sigh of relief and admitted that the visit "had given rise to fewer embarrassments than he had feared".

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How the parties measure up

| Fieldwork date | Poll | Cons | Lab | All'ce | Other |
|----------------|--------|------|------|--------|-------|
| Nov 1-2 | Harris | 40 | 36 | 21 | 3 |
| Nov 3-4 | MORI | 40 | 39 | 18 | 3 |
| Nov 5-10 | Harris | 41 | 38 | 18 | 3 |
| Nov 7-11 | MORI | 39 | 41 | 18 | 2 |
| Nov 11-17 | Gallup | 36 | 38.5 | 22 | 2.5 |
| Nov 20-24 | MORI | 39 | 38 | 20 | 3 |
| Nov 20-26 | MORI | 41 | 39 | 18 | 2 |
| Nov 26-Dec 1 | NOP | 41 | 38 | 19.5 | 1.5 |
| Dec 3-8 | NOP | 38 | 38 | 22 | 2 |
| Dec 8 | MORI | 39 | 38 | 21 | 2 |
| Dec 6-7 | Harris | 41 | 35 | 22 | 2 |
| Dec 8 | MORI | 41 | 39 | 19 | 1 |
| Dec 10-15 | Gallup | 41 | 32.5 | 23.5 | 3 |

Walker urges revival of Macmillan policies

By Our Political Editor

Mr Peter Walker, the Secretary of State for Energy, yesterday used a new year message to his constituents to urge the Conservative Party to adopt the "one nation" policies of the late Earl of Stockton.

Mr Walker was, by implication, once again making it clear that he stands for Macmillanism rather than Thatcherism, even in its new free-spending form.

Two of Macmillan's three great aims, Mr Walker said, had been the achievement of peace through strength, which meant fighting the unilateral disarmers of his time, and the achievement of a united Europe.

"His third great purpose was to unite our nation and to make sure that we did not suffer from two nations, one employed, and one unemployed, a prosperous South and a poor North," Mr Walker told his constituents in Worcester.

He said that as the parties prepared for a General Election these were still the great purposes of politics and only the Tory party could fulfil them.

Only the Conservatives believed in a strong Western Alliance; they were united as the pro-European party; and only a party which believed in free enterprise could secure an economy "in which everybody is employed and prosperity is assured".

The Tory government must pursue policies over the next five years which would ensure that free enterprise was encouraged to defeat foreign competition, and that new enterprises would be introduced in areas with the highest unemployment.

Mr Walker, who has mastered the art of indicating a difference in emphasis between his opinions and those of Mrs Thatcher without actually fracturing Cabinet unity, has made a number of speeches in recent years, notably at fringe meetings during the Conservative party conference, on Macmillanite "middle way" themes.

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A damp start to 1987 for Neal Henderson, aged three, of Finchley, watching the Lord Mayor of Westminster's parade of marching bands held in the West End yesterday to raise funds for the arts (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Visit by Soviet leaders

By Michael Evans, Whitehall Correspondent

The visit to Britain of Nikita Khrushchev, the Soviet Communist Party chairman, and Nikolai Bulganin, the Soviet Prime Minister, in April 1956 led to an extraordinary battle behind the scenes over protocol.

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Lunch with the Queen was banned by Eden

By Michael Evans, Whitehall Correspondent

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| NAIM-BART SILK <td>6'2"x3'7"<td>£1,150</td><td>£275</td></td> | 6'2"x3'7" <td>£1,150</td> <td>£275</td> | £1,150 | £275 |
| OLD AFSHAR <td>7'2"x4'8"<td>£900</td><td>£525</td></td> | 7'2"x4'8" <td>£900</td> <td>£525</td> | £900 | £525 |
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| SILK KASERI <td>6'2"x4'9"<td>£2,500</td><td>£1,600</td></td> | 6'2"x4'9" <td>£2,500</td> <td>£1,600</td> | £2,500 | £1,600 |
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| SHIRAZ <td>5'1"x3'<td>£350</td><td>£175</td></td> | 5'1"x3' <td>£350</td> <td>£175</td> | £350 | £175 |
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Growth in video use boosts British appetite for TV

By Howard Foster

A report published today shows that 98 per cent of households have at least one television set and an average of 25 hours a week is spent viewing, dispelling any lingering doubts that Britain is a nation of TV watchers.

Part of the increase is due to the popularity of video cassette recorders. In 1985, a quarter of British households either owned or rented one. Last year, that figure rose to 30 per cent and, in the same period, Britons have added another four hours to their weekly viewing time.

This insight into the habits of the United Kingdom is provided in a 468-page handbook compiled and published by the Central Office of Information for distribution at home and abroad to give a clear idea of our present standing in the social and economic league tables.

Much of the information is not new but when presented in the same volume provides interesting reading. For the reader whose interest is aroused by the book's assertion that "watching television is the main evening pastime for all except young men" there is ample material on alcohol, health, housing and sport to speculate on the night-time activities of the British teenage male.

Beer and wine continue to head the popularity league for drinkers, although newer spirits, including vodka, are gaining a foothold. Consumption has risen significantly since the 1950s.

Spending on gambling has fallen by 14 per cent in real terms between 1978 and 1984, but the British still risked

£6,000 million in 1984/5, excluding that tied into gaming machines. More than 90 per cent of adults gamble at some time, the survey says.

An average of three out of four people over the age of 15 read a national morning newspaper and one in three reads an evening newspaper.

If the attractions of the written word pall, a young, mortgage-holding house-owner might turn to a bit of home-improvement. Sixty per cent of adults already own or are buying houses. More than two thirds of households have central heating, 81 per cent have a telephone and 96 per cent a refrigerator.

Leisure time is expanding. In 1986, 95 per cent of manual workers were given basic holidays of four weeks or more, and 19 per cent now get five weeks or more.

Spain is still the most popular country for those wishing to escape from television to the beach, cheap food and wine. Of the 15.75 million holidays taken abroad last year, almost a third were spent on the Costa.

In spite of increasing awareness of the need for a healthy and nutritious diet, convenience foods are still the fastest-growing sector of the catering industry. Frozen foods, yoghurts and instant snacks sold particularly well in the United Kingdom in 1986.

The phenomenon of the massive supermarket also persists. There are now some 302 supermarkets and 44 hypermarkets, each with selling space of up to 53,800 sq ft. Planning permission exists for 61 more supermarkets and six

hypermarkets with park-ing facilities.

Despite the gloomy picture of unemployment, the survey states that Britain has one of the highest proportions of people of working age in jobs or seeking work among all the main industrialized countries. Latest statistics show that the self-employed account for more than 10 per cent of the workforce.

The computer service industry is one of the fastest-growing: "Britain is acknowledged as a world leader in the provision of software and computing services and software developed in Britain has contributed to developments in the applications of computers in numerous countries," the report says.

Computing is growing at the rate of 15 to 20 per cent a year and now provides employment for around 62,000 people.

Industrial competitors overseas will be disheartened to learn that Britain has been self-sufficient in energy in net terms since 1980. Output of crude oil six months ago some 2.2 million barrels a day, makes Britain the world's fifth largest oil producing nation.

But there must be fears for our spiritual survival. The report charts a declining membership of the main Christian churches, with only about one-sixth of the adult population taking an active part in religious practices. Regional variations, however, are enormous. England only has 13 per cent church membership whilst Northern Ireland has 80 per cent.

Britain 1987 (published by Central Office of Information; Stationery Office, £12.95).

The golden eagle has landed



Mrs Emma Ford, aged 24, who with her husband Stephen runs the British School of Falconry at Stelling Minnis, near Canterbury, out yesterday exercising Bonnie, an eight-year-old female golden eagle, which was given to the school just before Christmas for breeding (Photograph: Nick Rogers).

Spastics' contest open to all

By Guy Ker

The Spastics Society today makes a new move to break down barriers between the healthy and the disabled by opening its annual literary contest to the public.

In the past, the competition has been restricted to people who suffer from severe disabilities, but the society has decided that anyone with experience of disability, which means most of the population, should be allowed to express themselves on the issue.

"We're trying to open this subject up, and break down the barriers, although there is still an awful lot of work to be done," the society said.

"It's very daunting, especially for older people, but we have to keep chipping away. We want to get to the stage where if someone is in a wheelchair, he or she is seen as a person first, and only after that as someone with disabilities."

The society said that one in four families had first hand experience of the subject through a disabled member, while many healthy people were aware that considerable social barriers existed between themselves and the disabled.

It also expects that some of the writing would go to the core of how non-disabled people react when confronted with disabilities, though this is the "mystery" element in the competition.

As in previous years, disabled people vying for the £150 first prize can write on any subject in both the fiction and non-fiction categories.

Full details of entry qualifications for the society's 17th annual literary contest will be announced by the actress Susan Tully, of BBC TV's *EastEnders*, on Radio 4's *Woman's Hour*, which is organizing the competition in conjunction with the Spastics Society.

Mr Donald Swaine, a teacher, aged 48, of Heston, Bradford, was attacked on Christmas morning as he walked home from the Youth Hostels Association.

He was left to die under a mattress in a rooming house near by, after being dragged from the main road into a back alley. Police said he was picked "at random".

Det Supt Ken Baines, who is leading the hunt, said drivers were co-operative. Friends of the murdered teacher are setting up a trust fund to help his widow and two children.

GCSE survey

Cash and teacher shortages threaten exam, says union

By Mark Dowd, Education Reporter

Inadequate resources and chronic shortages of teachers are jeopardizing the new General Certificate of Secondary Education examination, according to a survey carried out for the second largest teaching union in England and Wales.

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers is the second union to monitor local education authority funding for the examination.

A survey by the National Association of Head Teachers last October concluded that many authorities were providing well under half the money expected towards their £40 million share of the bill.

The NAHT expressed its concern to Mrs Angela Rumbold, Minister of State for Education. She undertook to look into the matter, but the association has yet to hear

from the Department of Education and Science.

More than 60 out of a total of 104 chief education officers have responded to the latest questionnaire from the NAS/UNT.

The union agreed not to name individual authorities in its conclusions but said that the findings painted a distressing picture of an examination that had enjoyed, at best, a patchy launch.

Only three authorities have been able to take on additional teachers to cope with the increased workload implicit in an examination that demands more by way of continuous assessment and practical work, while the survey disclosed that four authorities had not made any extra cash provision for GCSE.

Moreover, it appears that many authorities are having to

Cost of car insurance is soaring

The cost of motor insurance is soaring, after a big increase in claims over the past 12 months.

Premiums are now 20 to 30 per cent higher than at the beginning of last year, and insurance companies have said that they will continue to rise.

General Accident of Perth, the largest motor insurance company in Britain, confirmed yesterday that it had raised premiums by about 25 per cent through three increases in the last 12 months.

In some cases, the increases could amount to about 30 per cent, and a further increase of 6 per cent on comprehensive policies would take effect next month.

The Association of British Insurers said that in 1985 the motor insurance market had recorded a loss of 17 per cent of its premium income, because of the increased frequency and higher claims.

New year violence

Policewoman attacked in clash with drunken youths

By a Staff Reporter

A woman police constable was knocked unconscious and kicked while on the ground during clashes between police and youths as New Year's Eve celebrations throughout Britain were marred by violence.

WPC Maria Cooper was held overnight in Milton Keynes General Hospital and another nine officers were injured after about 250 youths armed with beer kegs and Belisha beacons attacked police at Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire.

Thames Valley police said 18 people were arrested and windows were smashed in four shops in the fighting.

At Springfield, Milton Keynes, a cannister of CS gas was thrown into a social club as about 30 youths attempted to gatecrash a private party shortly before midnight. However no-one was injured and there were only two arrests.

While most cities and towns saw the new year in peacefully, there were clashes between police and crowds of youths in several smaller towns and villages.

At Brightlingsea, Essex, about 40 police took more than two hours to restore order in a clash with a mob of about 250 youths.

Police described the youths as "drunken yobs". Two officers were injured and 11 people were arrested for public order offences or assault. Nine were still being held in custody yesterday.

At Crowborough, Sussex, armed police surrounded a house after a man claimed that he was holding a woman hostage. Two shots were fired inside the house before the man threw out a shotgun and surrendered. The building was found to be empty.

In London, Scotland Yard reported that more than 50,000 revellers packed into Trafalgar Square to see in 1987. There were 169 arrests, mostly for public order offences, and 40 people were charged.

The St John Ambulance Brigade treated 195 people, mainly for cuts and bruises caused by broken glass. Fifty people were taken to hospital, including a man who suffered severe head injuries in a fall.

In Manchester, there were four arrests for public order offences as about 1,000 revellers packed into Albert Square. One police officer was injured and a woman suffered cuts from broken glass.

In Birmingham, crowds packed into Chamberlain Square but the police reported that the celebrations were peaceful with few arrests.

A middle-aged man died in Birmingham after being hit by a stolen car sometime after midnight. West Midlands Police said the man had been lying in the road before being hit by the car, which was later found abandoned. The police have appealed for witnesses to the accident.

More than 20 anti-nuclear protesters were arrested after

breaching the perimeter fence at RAF Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, which is used as a United States Air Force base.

Thames Valley Police said the protesters, from the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, were picketing the base as part of an "Actions Speak Louder than Words" protest.

The perimeter fence was breached in 11 places and 23 protesters reached operational areas inside the base before they were arrested by Ministry of Defence police. All have been bailed to appear before Banbury magistrates at a later date.

Hampshire Police said that 30 people were arrested, mostly for public order offences, in New Year's Eve celebrations in the county.

Drink-driving figures prompt harder line

By Mark Ellis

Police forces throughout England and Wales will consider tougher measures against drinking and driving this year after reviewing their Christmas and New Year campaigns.

Senior officers have been disappointed by a rise in the number of motorists arrested for drinking and driving in some regions, especially over the New Year period.

One force, Cambridgeshire, has already pledged a tough campaign against drink-driving throughout the year, after reporting a big increase in offences and road accidents over the holiday.

Other forces are believed to be considering similar steps to impress on the public that motorists who drink are likely to be caught. In Staffordshire, the number of drink-driving offences rose by nearly 50 per cent compared with the 1986 holiday period. A police spokesman said of the 49 arrests made: "After all the publicity and effort, the figures are very disappointing."

Police in Cambridgeshire said yesterday that they would strictly enforce the law against drink-

ing and driving during the year, after recording 72 positive breath tests, 60 crashes and three deaths on the roads during the holiday period. Last year there were 41 positive breath tests over a similar period.

A spokesman said: "Despite great public awareness of the drink-driving problem, and increasing evidence that many people are taking steps to avoid driving when they have been drinking, there is still a substantial number of drivers who are prepared to take a chance and put themselves, their families and other road users at risk."

Nottinghamshire police arrested 149 during their Christmas and New Year campaign against drinking and driving. The number of motorists arrested fell from 9.1 per cent of those breathalysed for the year to 2.6 per cent for the holiday period.

Derbyshire police recorded 62 positive breath tests during the holiday period compared with 52 in 1986, but reported a reduction in the number of injury accidents from 112 to 90.

Road blocks set up at murder site

Police set up road blocks yesterday to question motorists at the scene of a murder in Bradford, west Yorkshire.

Hundreds of drivers were stopped between midnight and 2.00am as officers tried to jog the memories of people who may have been in the area last week.

Mr Donald Swaine, a teacher, aged 48, of Heston, Bradford, was attacked on Christmas morning as he walked home from the Youth Hostels Association.

He was left to die under a mattress in a rooming house near by, after being dragged from the main road into a back alley. Police said he was picked "at random".

Det Supt Ken Baines, who is leading the hunt, said drivers were co-operative. Friends of the murdered teacher are setting up a trust fund to help his widow and two children.

Blood plea to 2,000 in hunt for killer

By Craig Seton

About 2,000 men are to be asked to provide specimens of blood and saliva in an attempt to trace the murderer of two schoolgirls.

The tests will be carried out in the Leicestershire villages where Lynda Mann and Dawn Ashworth, both aged 15, were killed a few hundred yards apart.

Police have established a scientific test which provides a "genetic fingerprint" of the man who killed the girls. The test has already proved that a man earlier charged with one of the killings was innocent.

Both girls - who went to Lutterworth grammar schools - were sexually assaulted and strangled as they walked close to their homes.

Dawn, who died in August, lived in the village of Enderby and Lynn, who was killed three years ago, in the neighbouring village of Narborough.

Now males aged 16 to 34 in Enderby, Narborough and Littlethorpe, another village near by, are being asked to provide samples for testing.

Police believe that one man murdered the two girls and they can corner the killer - or

at least eliminate suspects - by the "genetic fingerprinting" method developed at Leicester University.

The "genetic fingerprint" was developed by Dr Alex Jeffreys, of Leicester University, in association with the Home Office's central research establishment at Aldermaston.

Known as DNA testing, it involves subjecting body samples to detailed microbiological analysis.

The manner of identifying the person involved is as individual as a fingerprint taken from the hands.

The method involves samples of blood, saliva or semen and was used by detectives in Leicestershire when they decided to take no further action against Mr Richard Buckland, aged 17, a hospital porter, who had been charged with the murder of Dawn Ashworth. Samples of fluid taken from Mr Buckland, who lives in Narborough, demonstrated that he could not have been involved in the murders and he was released after three months in custody.

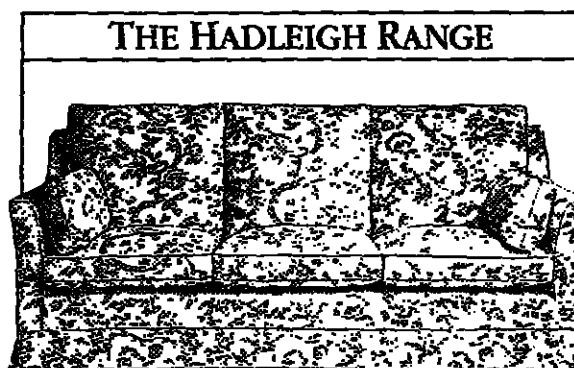
Two local centres are being established for the tests to be carried out on the local male population.

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| EX. LARGE SOFA | £1183 | £790 | £270 |
| FOOTSTOOL | £ 142 | £100 | £ 50 |

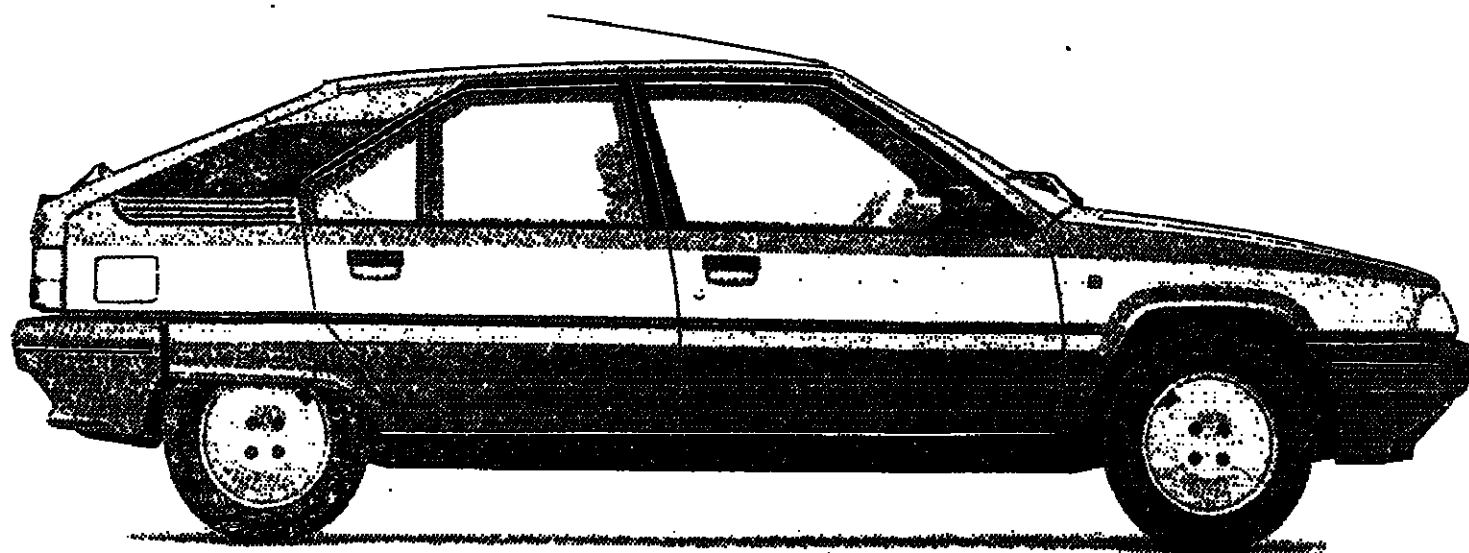
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consultants
fears over
solution of
poisons unit

Parents
sue over
vasectomy

esperanto celebrates
centenary of growth

trust's unclaimed

Consultants' fears over isolation of poisons unit

By Jill Sherman

A dispute is developing over the future of the National Poisons Unit which is based at a London hospital due to close in March.

Consultants at the unit say that if the centre remains on the same site it will be completely isolated from patient services and contravene World Health Organization recommendations that the service should be based on a hospital site.

The centrally-funded service, set up in 1968, is based at New Cross Hospital in south London.

Although the hospital is scheduled to close in March, with most of the services transferred to Guy's Hospital, the poisons unit will remain on the site four miles away.

The unit, which has its own laboratory and research facilities, deals with more than 35,000 inquiries every year and provides medical staff and emergency services throughout the country with information on how to deal with incidents of acute poisoning.

Samples from patients with suspected poisoning can be rapidly screened and several thousand urine samples are referred from drug dependence clinics each year.

The service is increasingly dealing with chronic poisoning as a result of occupational hazards such as lead,

mercury, arsenic, aluminium and other potentially toxic metals.

Until last October, the unit's three consultants were also able to treat people admitted with poisoning to New Cross Hospital.

But the general medical beds at the hospital have closed and consultants must travel to Guy's to see patients, where the necessary back-up facilities are not available.

"We have been completely left out of the plans for the new unit at Guy's. We will be physically isolated from all other health services. There will be no teaching input and technicians analysing samples will be four miles from the patient," Dr Glynn Volans, director of the Poisons Service, said yesterday.

A report following a World Health Organization meeting of poison specialists in October 1985 recommended that all poison control centres should be sited as part of a hospital complex. The regional poison services at Newcastle and Birmingham were based at hospitals, he said.

He has appealed to the health authority and trustees of Guy's Hospital to locate the poisons service at Guy's. He estimates that the cost of transferring the unit, which was rebuilt, at a cost of £750,000 only two years ago, would be at least £2 million.

Tory peer recovering in hospital

Lord Soames, the former Conservative Cabinet Minister, was making "very satisfactory progress" last night after an abdominal operation at the Cromwell Hospital, south-west London.

His surgeon, Mr Charles Ake, and his general practitioner, Dr John Creighton, said in a medical bulletin issued yesterday: "On December 30, 1986, Lord Soames underwent abdominal surgery in which a non-malignant biliary obstruction was relieved by a standard surgical procedure."

The operation, although long and intricate, was uncomplicated and he is making very satisfactory progress.

"It is expected that he will leave the intensive care unit of the Cromwell Hospital shortly and, after a period of convalescence, will resume his normal active life and duties."

His son, Mr Nicholas Soames, Conservative MP for Crawley, said: "He is very much better."

Lord Soames, aged 66, who was a Cabinet Minister in the government of Mr Harold Macmillan, played a dominant part in the negotiations leading to the independence of Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe.

Esperanto celebrates centenary of growth

Esperanto, the international language, is 100 years old this year.

The birthchild of Ludovik Zamenhof, a Polish Jew, Esperanto is spoken today by eight million people from 130 countries, Mr Herbert Platt, secretary of the British Esperanto Association, said in London yesterday. Of those 10,000 are British.

With increasing international and political support, the Esperanto Parliamentary Group is now the largest lobby at Westminster.

The group has a library containing about 38,000 items of literature, including Shakespeare, the Koran, Asterix the Gaul, Oscar Wilde, Mao Tse-tung, Winnie the Pooh, the Bible and Rabindranath Tagore, the Nobel laureate.

Many people are beginning to consider Esperanto the long-term solution to the language problem.

The British Government officially recognizes Esperanto's cultural value, through a special Unesco declaration. There is a lectureship in Esperanto at Liverpool University and the Certificate of Secondary Education examines in the international language.

There has been progress recently for the language in the fields of technology, literature and education. The Dutch Government has given the computer company, B S O, a £3 million grant to develop a machine translation programme with Esperanto as the intermediate language.

A number of events is planned in Britain to mark the centenary of the international language, including a performance of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Esperanto speakers at the Bloomsbury Theatre in central London.

Trust's unclaimed millions

A new public office opens today with millions of pounds to give away.

The cash has accumulated over the centuries from sources such as unclaimed estates.

That money, which has been paid into court and has built up massive sums of interest under the heading of "dormant funds", passes today into the hands of the newly-created Public Trust Office.

The office is a central organization established to handle an estimated £1 billion worth of assets previously dealt with by bodies such as the Court Funds Office, the protection division of the Court of Protection, the Public Trustee Office, and receivers.

The office, with a staff of 620, will be in Kingsway and

Stone Street, central London. It will handle matters such as investment of court compensation awarded to people who are not able to handle their own financial affairs, as well as taking care of "dormant funds".

"We shall be handling a huge range of accounts starting at figures as low as several thousand pounds, which might have been awarded to a child for minor injuries, and going up to sums of several millions involved in big trust accounts," a spokesman said yesterday.

The interest from the unclaimed "dormant funds" would be used to help pay for the running of the office.

Staff would be handling inquiries from all over the world from people trying to lay claim to some fortune.

Motorway driving standards 'falling'

By Rodney Cowton
Transport Correspondent

Road hauliers are pressing the Department of Transport to launch a publicity campaign to counter falling driving standards on motorways.

The Freight Transport Association is particularly concerned about the increasing practice of frustrated motorists illegally overtaking on the inside lane, when the outside lane becomes clogged with fast moving motor-tail traffic.

It says it is receiving a growing number of complaints from members about this practice.

Mr Garry Turvey, director general of the association, said: "Lane discipline breaks down completely and the slow lane becomes the fast lane."

"Drivers who sit in the overtaking lane when they could move over are as much to blame as the frustrated ones, who take an enormous risk by breaking the law and overtake on the inside."

Two sections of motorway where overtaking on the inside is said to occur most frequently are the M25, between Heathrow and Gatwick airports, and the M6, near Birmingham.

Mr Turvey said that until the south-western sections of the M25 were widened to four lanes "drivers have got to exercise greater care and squeeze the last ounce of capacity out of the existing lanes by improving their lane discipline."

"When motorways first emerged on the scene, they were accompanied by a tremendous amount of driver education on how to use them."

"We now have a whole new generation of drivers who have not had the benefit of all that information and advice."

"A publicity campaign on motorway driving should be a top priority for the Department of Transport."

Official statistics show that motorways are very much safer than other roads in relation to the volume of traffic carried.

Although the actual number of motorway accidents has been rising, the rate of accidents, taking into account the numbers of vehicles and distance travelled, has been roughly static for the last three years, after falling significantly from the levels of the mid-1970s.

Cutbacks by police 'illegal'

Mr David Owen, Chief Constable of Wales, has not consulted local people on moves to close 41 police stations in North Wales, in contravention of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act, 1984, Llangernyw Community Council has claimed.

Mr Ian Mackintosh-Sandbach, a local land owner, said in a report to the North Wales Police Authority committee that Mr Owen did not have the power to dispose of assets such as village police stations without the approval of the local community council.

He accused the police of making misleading statements in a 1985-86 budget report on the cost of running police houses in an attempt to justify proposals to sell rural police stations.

According to the report, city rent allowances amount to an extra £563 for each constable. But the community council claims that the allowance should be £1,003.

A spokesman for Mr Owen said yesterday that the authority had, in accordance with the Act, established two consultative committees representing Cwyd and Gwynedd to obtain the views of local people.

"In addition to that, we have and are in the process of attending council meetings down to community council level to discuss the proposed closures."

Proposals to close the police stations were revealed at a meeting of the authority last October. Twenty-three of the 41 stations mentioned in the report have been unmanned for up to four years. A final decision is expected in March.

Walker killed by police car

Mr George Judge, aged 34, of Fabar Close, Newton Aycliffe, Co Durham, died yesterday after being hit by a police car while walking in Burn Lane.

Police said that they want to interview the driver of a white or cream coloured Ford Sierra car which was near by at the time of the accident.

Christmas tree 'home'

A home for discarded Christmas trees has been opened at Muford, Suffolk.

James and Daphne Edington accept trees with roots and have planted hundreds of cast-offs.

Suite success for Operation Bargain



Four young Londoners yesterday completed a military-style operation to ensure that they became the owners of a large suite which featured in Liberty's sale.

Mr Rob Mitchell, Mr Chris Perkins, his sister Tina, and Mr Philip Van Gratten (from left, above) spent the night outside the Liberty store in Regent Street, London, to secure the sofa and chair which they spotted when they attended The Times preview evening at

the store two weeks ago. On New Year's Eve they returned to establish exactly where it would be at the time of the sale, and analyzed the lay-out of the store to plot the fastest route to the suite, which was reduced from £1,785 to £495.

"We did a series of test runs, timed ourselves with a stopwatch from a multitude of entrances, and chose the four fastest routes," Mr Perkins said. The suite will be delivered to his home in

Pimlico, south London, next week.

The group went to the store after a New Year's Eve party and slept on the steps until the doors opened. At 9.55 yesterday morning they began jogging to warm up for the final charge up four flights of stairs, lifts and escalators.

At 10am, each entered the store by a different route. "And it worked. We were there first," Mr Perkins said.

(Photograph: Tim Bishop).

Launch of ID card in crime fight

The fight against "doorstep criminals" and "cowboy salesmen" is stepped up today with the launch of Britain's first national identity card for market research interviewers.

Most of the 25,000 bona fide market research interviewers will have cards bearing their names, addresses, photographs and a guarantee that their interviews are part of genuine research and do not involve selling.

The card is supplied by the Market Research Society, which represents individuals working in the industry, and is backed by the police and the Office of Fair Trading.

Its aim is to reassure the public and the police that genuine survey interviews are taking place and to maintain public confidence in market research.

It is launched at a time of increasing doorstep crime and the misleading passing-off of direct selling as market research, known as "sugging".

Two on bottle bomb charge

John Martin, aged 18, and another youth aged 15 were remanded in custody for a week when they appeared before Tower Bridge magistrates, east London, yesterday, charged with discharging an explosive device and injuring a man in Boughton House, Tennis Street, Southwark.

Mr Tom Iles, aged 75, suffered burns when a device inserted in a bottle and wired to a lift door, exploded on new year's eve.

Lorry crash victim named

A shop assistant who died when a lorry crashed into the post office where she was working on New Year's Eve, was named yesterday as Mrs Betty Johnson, aged 59, of Springbank Avenue, Endon, Stoke on Trent.

Mrs Johnson died instantly and the sub post office in Stockton Brook was demolished. Another shop assistant, aged 30, was recovering in hospital yesterday.

Death fall off bridge

Mr Steven Dixon, aged 30, of Lache Estate, Chester, died after falling from a 60ft bridge into the river Dee at Chester yesterday.

A police spokesman said that he slipped while walking along the parapet of Grosvenor bridge.

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Scheme to cut heart deaths

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Many thousands of deaths each year from heart attacks could be prevented if ambulance crews were fully trained and equipped to deal with such emergencies, researchers believe.

A project to investigate sudden deaths caused by coronary heart disease and to evaluate the benefits of first aid for heart attack victims is being carried out by specialists in Nottingham.

The work, which is being funded with a £78,644 grant from the British Heart Foundation, could lead to the widespread introduction of ambulance crews capable of reviving victims who would

otherwise die before reaching hospital. Cardiovascular conditions, including heart disease and strokes, are the leading cause of death in Britain. In 1984, 101,328 men and 78,469 women died as a result of heart disease.

About 40 per cent of those, approximately 700 people a week, die before they reach hospital.

"If we are going to tackle a major killer such as heart disease, we have to tackle a major component, such as these pre-hospital deaths," Professor Tony Mitchell, head of the department of medicine at University Hospital, Nottingham, said yesterday.

The city has for three years been compiling statistics on coronary cases and is training ambulance crews in the use of portable defibrillators, which deliver an electrical shock to the chest of an unconscious patient and can jolt the heart back into action.

Evidence from Seattle, in the United States, which has a similar population to that of Nottingham, and where a similar project has been evaluated, suggests that about 100 lives a year can be saved with such a scheme.

If the Nottingham project can be shown to save significant numbers of lives, other health authorities will come under pressure to follow suit.

Warning after two climbers are killed

Climbers and hill walkers were given a warning by police yesterday to take "extreme care" after a spate of accidents in the West Highlands of Scotland left two dead and others injured.

An avalanche warning for the area was issued on Wednesday.

Yesterday, with winds said to be reaching storm force, police said: "If they are considering going out, extreme care should be taken because of the weather conditions."

"Unless they have excellent equipment, they should forget it."

The new year is one of the busiest periods for the area, where climbers are attracted to Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in Britain, and hill walkers to the lonely grandeur of Glencoe.

Only one of the four separate incidents which kept police, mountain rescue squads, and the RAF busy until the early hours of New Year's Day was thought to be directly attributable to an avalanche.

Mr Steven Williams, a student, aged 25, of Woodley, Stockport, was climbing down a gully in Glen Etive, Glencoe area, with two companions when an avalanche swept him 100 feet down the mountain.

His body was located seven hours later.

In the second fatality, a party of climbers on Ben Nevis heard shouts coming from 500 ft below them.

They went to investigate and found two climbers, one dead, the other injured. They were taken off the mountain early yesterday.

The dead man was named as John Taylor, aged 22, a student, of Cosby, Leicestershire.

His injured companion was Andrew Fanshaw, aged 23, a Civil Servant, of Morley Green, Wiltshire, Cheshire. In other incidents, Philip Wilson, aged 23, of Camberley, Surrey, was taken to hospital after a fall on Glencoe.

And three climbers were airlifted to safety by an RAF helicopter, after they fell down a ridge in Glencoe.

Police named them as Raymond Davidson, aged 28, and Thomas Moffat, aged 30, both of Edinburgh, and Miss Patricia Littlechild, aged 21, of London. Weather, page 16

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WORLD SUMMARY

Israeli jet plane 'too expensive'

Jerusalem — Dr Dov Zakheim, the Pentagon official responsible for assessing the viability of Israel's own new all-purpose fighter jet, the Lavi, which made its successful maiden flight on New Year's Eve, is expected to fly to Israel next week to tell the Government it would be cheaper and quicker to abandon work on it (Ian Murray writes).

Israel will be told to opt for one or other of 19 alternative models available of five existing aircraft, including the British Harrier and versions of the American F-15, F-16 or F-13.

Israel has so far spent \$1.2 billion in developing the Lavi over 6½ years. A good deal of this has gone on an ultra-sophisticated automatic control system, operated by an electronic brain, which makes all the calculations for the pilot, who no longer needs a control stick to fly the machine.

The US, which has so far contributed \$300 million to the project, now insists that it would be better for Israel to install the electronic equipment in a proven airframe rather than go to the expense of perfecting a new one.

Behind the American concern is the fact that if Israel does spend too much on the Lavi, there will be little alternative but for Washington to find the extra money needed to keep the Israeli army up to strength. Israeli experts believe that the American aircraft industry is behind the move because it wants to kill the project rather than run the risk that the Lavi becomes a rival for export orders.

Pretoria accused

Johannesburg — Botswana accused Pretoria yesterday of complicity in the death of a 72-year-old woman attacked with hand grenades and killed in her house at Ramotswa, less than a mile from the border between Botswana and South Africa (George Brock writes).

In the past two years a total of 18 people had been killed inside the country by cross-border raiders. Eleven of those were South African refugees or nationals of other countries.

Botswana has always denied that members of the military wing of the African National Congress are based in the country.

Chad on attack

Ndjamena (AFP) — Libyan forces suffered heavy losses in fierce fighting this week with Chadian troops round Zouar in northern Chad, a military communiqué said here yesterday.

Zouar, on the southern edge of the Tibesti mountains, had been reported captured by the Libyans on Monday.

The Chadian Embassy in Paris said Chadian forces had inflicted a crushing defeat on Libyan troops during a counter-attack south of Zouar, killing 50 and capturing 14.

They also captured a T-55 tank, two tank transporters and other equipment.

Couple set to match

Durban (AFP) — The Swedish tennis star Mats Wilander, right, and his South African fiancée, the American-based model Sonya Mulholland, will be married on Saturday despite criticism from a range of anti-apartheid organizations.

The wedding has been sharply criticized by groups in Sweden as well as the outlawed African National Congress in South Africa.

Wilander told a Swedish newspaper recently that his decision to marry in South Africa was a customary gesture towards the bride's family, but stressed he had never played tennis in South Africa and never intended doing so.



Sikhs kill 3

Delhi (Reuters) — Suspected Sikh extremists have killed three Punjab electricity workers and looted a utility office in separatist violence.

Two of the employees of the State Electricity Board were killed on Wednesday night in an ambush near the industrial city of Batala. A third worker was shot dead elsewhere in the district yesterday.

Tamil party

Colombo (Reuters) — Sri Lanka's largest guerrilla group is to form a political party to press for an independent Tamil state.

Mr Sathasivam Krishnakumar, a northern commander of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, said in a Jaffna newspaper interview that the aim was to win the support of the Tamil people for their own homeland.

Scientology accused

Los Angeles — Six former members of the Church of Scientology, claiming to speak for as many as 400 ex-church followers, filed a \$1 billion class action lawsuit on Wednesday against the organization in Los Angeles Superior Court (Ivor Davis writes).

They accused the church's late founder, Mr L. Ron Hubbard, and a group of his most trusted aides of plundering church coffers, intimidating critics and breaching the confidentiality of sacred confessional folders.

Cuba cuts back in austerity drive

Havana (Reuters) — Fewer hours of television, higher bus fares and less milk are among austerity measures for the new year spelt out yesterday by the official Cuban newspaper, *Granma*.

President Castro had announced the 28 austerity measures in a Christmas Eve speech to the National Assembly, but had not given details. He said Cuba faced economic problems in 1987 and that imports paid for with hard currency would fall from \$1.2 billion (£800 million) last year to half that amount.

Granma said there would be a sharp cut in the number of cars used by government agencies and many of the cars would be sold to officials.

The canning industry would receive less sugar but would be expected to produce as much as before and the sugar sold would be sold to the public.

Government agencies would receive fewer mattresses.

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Protest over jamming of Reagan message

From Michael Binyon
Washington

The White House yesterday protested to Moscow over the jamming of President Reagan's New Year's Day message to the Soviet people.

A White House spokesman at Palm Springs, California, where the President is spending his new year holiday, said the jamming of the Voice of America broadcast was a disservice to the Soviet people.

Mr Reagan's message, in which he spoke at length of the importance of respect for human rights in superpower relations, was broadcast on

VOA because the Soviet Union said the atmosphere between the two countries did not warrant a repetition of last year's exchange of television messages.

VOA, which broadcasts to the Soviet Union in Russian and five other languages used in the country, has been routinely jammed since 1980. There was little surprise here that no change was made for President Reagan's message. But although the broadcast was blotted out in the Moscow and Leningrad regions, VOA transmissions are often audible in the Soviet countryside.

The frequency for the President's new year message, which was repeated five times, was changed several times in an effort to evade jamming.

White House aides said Mr Reagan would have emphasized the same themes of human rights and hopes for arms control agreements if he had been allowed to go on Soviet television. He said that in 1986 the two countries made progress on some of the toughest questions and expressed confidence that this year they would do better.

He concluded his 10-minute address with a wish for "a happy, healthy and prosper-

ous new year for the Soviet people".

Each broadcast began with Mr Reagan's voice speaking English briefly and then continued with a translator's version. The speech was also broadcast throughout Eastern Europe, and VOA officials estimated that it reached at least 60 million people in the Soviet bloc.

President Reagan, in his brief and routine new year greeting to the American people, said he was convinced that life in America offered far more opportunity than it did on the first New Year's Day that he saw in this world three-quarters of a century ago.

● MOSCOW: The domestic news service of Moscow radio yesterday broadcast an edited version of President Reagan's New Year's Day message to the Soviet people (Christopher Walker writes).

The seven-minute report ran as the eighth item on only one morning news bulletin. Although it contained some of the President's references to human rights, it cut an apparent reference to the recent release from internal exile of the dissident physicist, Dr Andrei Sakharov.

The decision by Moscow radio to broadcast parts of the message took diplomats at the

American Embassy by surprise.

The broadcast omitted, among other things, President Reagan's reference to the fact that not a single American soldier was currently engaged in combat, and also his expression of regret that the exchange of televised messages, initiated last year, could not be repeated because of Soviet opposition.

Moscow radio quoted Mr Reagan as saying that "respect for the freedom and dignity of the individual is the foundation on which a genuine and reliable peace" between the Soviet Union and the US should be built.

Kremlin power struggle delays key meeting

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The unexplained failure of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee to hold the full meeting due in the second half of 1986 has convinced senior diplomats that Mr Mikhail Gorbachev is meeting stiff resistance to his ambitious reform programme.

Although both Mr Gorbachev and his number two, Mr Yegor Ligachev, forecast that the keenly anticipated plenary session of the 307-member committee would be held before the end of last year, the meeting did not take place despite repeated rumours that it was imminent.

A well-placed Western diplomatic source explained yesterday: "There can only be one reason for the delay, and that is determined rearguard action by diehard conservatives in the Kremlin bureaucracy who are opposed to some of the changes which Mr Gorbachev wants to make both in policy and personnel."

The last gathering of the committee, which has a key role in determining the composition of the Politburo, took place in June. It was subsequently announced that the next session — which may now take place later this month or early next — would deal with the sensitive issue of jobs within the party hierarchy.

Normally forthcoming Soviet sources have been at a loss to explain to Western contacts why the meeting has been postponed for so long when, under a strict interpretation of the party rules, it should have been convened before the end of December or six months after the previous session. Plenary meetings usually take place two or three times a year.

One Soviet source told me, when questioned about the meeting on New Year's Eve: "Even members of the Central Committee themselves do not know when it will be held. Like you and your colleagues, we have all heard the rumours."

but, as of now, no date has been fixed."

Among reasons cited for the delay was the outbreak of serious nationalist rioting in Alma-Ata, capital of the Central Asian republic of Kazakhstan.

When the session is finally held, future membership of the 12-strong Politburo — which runs the country on a day-to-day basis — will have to be determined. It is known that Mr Gorbachev is anxious to remove the two last remaining cronies of the late Leonid Brezhnev still to hold seats.

Mr Dinmukhamet Kunayev, aged 74, has been deposed as leader of the Kazakhstan Communist Party and his departure is a foregone conclusion. Less clear-cut is the future of Mr Vladimir Shcherbitsky, aged 68, the Ukrainian party chief, whose demise has often been wrongly predicted by Kremlin-watchers.

"Although nothing has been said in public, there is no doubt that a power struggle of serious proportions has been taking place between the reformers and the conservatives," a Western envoy said.

Soviet officials acknowledge that a crucial pointer will be the future position of Mr Boris Yeltsin, the dynamic and abrasive new head of the powerful Moscow Communist Party, who is at present sitting on the sidelines of power as a candidate, or non-voting member of the Politburo. If he is promoted, it will be a clear indication that the reformers are in the ascendancy.

Mr Yeltsin has thrown his cap into the ring as an outspoken opponent of the privileges, such as special shops, clinics and rest homes, which exist solely for the party elite. On this sensitive issue, he has been opposed by Mr Ligachev who, at the age of 66, holds the important post of party ideological chief.

Soviet Jews wary of new visa law

Moscow — Controversial new rules covering emigration from the Soviet Union came into effect yesterday under a law which many Jews waiting to leave the country fear will prove more restrictive than the unpublished directives which have regulated their exit to date (Christopher Walker writes).

Dr Andrei Sakharov, who recently returned from nearly seven years' internal exile, and Mr Natan Sharansky, the Soviet Jew set free in a swap last February, are among leading human rights campaigners who have already expressed concern.

Under the new law, invitations to join a family abroad must be received from a spouse, parent, child or brother or sister living abroad. Invitations from more distant relatives — which have been used up to now — are accepted only if the applicant has no family in the Soviet Union.

"No one knows what this means in practice," one "refusenik" said, reflecting the widespread confusion and anxiety the regulations have caused among Soviet Jews waiting to leave.

Dr Anatoly Raben, aged 63, who first applied to emigrate with his family in 1979,

explained: "The frightening question now for thousands of refuseniks is: what will be their fate?"

The new law states that people may apply to leave on "private business", including family reunions, visits to seriously ill relatives, weddings, funerals and other "valid reasons".

In recent years, Jewish emigration has slumped drastically from the peak year in 1979 when 51,330 were allowed to go. During 1986, figures show that by the end of November only 873 Jews had been permitted to leave, and the total is not expected to reach 1,000 when the final figure is released.

Despite the sense of anxiety, some refuseniks acknowledged that the law will have to be observed in practice before a final judgment can be made. But even though there have been recent hints of liberalization from the Kremlin, the general view remains extremely sceptical.

● Protest letter: An open letter addressed to the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, and signed by more than 40 Jewish refuseniks protesting about the new regulations, was received the West (Mary Dejevsky writes).



Cardinal John O'Connor of New York crossing the Allenby Bridge on his way to Jerusalem yesterday at the start of a visit which turned sour before his arrival when he obeyed orders from the Vatican and cancelled meetings with Israeli leaders in the city (Ian Murray writes).

The Vatican, which does not recognize Israel, stepped in when he agreed to meet President Chaim Herzog and Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, in their Jerusalem offices.

On arriving from Jordan, where he had visited Palestinian refugee camps and met King Hussein, the Cardinal apologized for the mix-up, which he blamed on protocol. The Vatican had told him that if he visited leaders in Jerusalem, which Israel explicitly made its capital in 1980 despite Arab protests at the occupation of the eastern sector in the 1967 war, this could be interpreted as a recognition of the state and perhaps endanger thousands of Christians in the Middle East.

During his five-day stay the Cardinal will visit, as a guest of the state, the memorial to the Holocaust and will meet Mr Ze'evuham Hammer, the Religious Affairs Minister, to discuss specific religious matters.

But a large part of his private schedule will be devoted to Palestinian refugee institutions. In similar visits in Jordan he called for a settlement of the Palestinian problem, while insisting on Israel's rights to protect its borders and to live in peace.

Pinochet's amnesty offer

State of siege lifted after rift in junta

From Lake Sagaris, Santiago

President Pinochet's address to the nation on Wednesday marked the end of a major crackdown on Chile's opposition and the start of a new strategy aimed at consolidating the military's 1980 constitution, in preparation for a presidential plebiscite in 1989.

Dressed in a civilian suit rather than his usual dress uniform, General Pinochet announced the lifting of the state of siege, an "overall solution" to the problem of Chilean exiles, and progress in drafting political laws necessary to implement the constitution.

Observers in Chile say the general's sudden change of strategy is the result of pressure from the military junta; the success of the state of siege

in scattering Chile's opposition groups, splitting off the more militant Communist Party from the centre; pressure from the United States for progress toward the 1989 plebiscite; and the need to make certain concessions before the papal visit in April.

President Pinochet declared the country in a state of siege on September 7 after a commando ambushed the presidential convoy, killing five escorts.

Moderate opposition leaders complained the state of siege was used to crack down on the entire opposition, rather than simply facilitate the investigation of the ambush. Human rights groups also reported an increase in the use and brutality of torture, with live rats and snakes



General Pinochet: sudden change of strategy

being forced into the clothing and down the throats of men arrested in connection with the ambush and the discovery of arms caches in August.

But it was clear that some members of the four-man

junta disagreed with the state of siege. When it was extended for a month on December 7, opposition media reported that this was a compromise between President Pinochet's hardline stance and the insistence of some junta members that it be lifted as soon as possible.

Even before President Pinochet spoke on Wednesday, Admiral José Toribio Merino had announced the state of siege would not be extended, and at least one Santiago paper had announced the changes regarding exiles.

These changes had been expected on September 11, but President Pinochet, connecting the assassination attempt with returning exiles, refused to do more than threaten to register all returning exiles.

French railmen spurn olive branch

From Diana Geddes
Paris

French railwaymen's leaders yesterday rejected the olive branch offered by the SNCF management in the form of an unconditional withdrawal of the disputed new salary scales, and called for a continuation of their 15-day-old strike in pursuit of other demands on pay and working conditions.

Although the announcement of the abandonment of the new merit-based scales came from the independent mediator in the dispute, M François Lavondès, the decision could not have been taken without the approval of both the Government and the railways management.

It is the second time within a month that the conservative Government has been forced to climb down in the face of protests by pressure groups.

Although the Government has tried to avoid being too closely involved in the present dispute, this latest defeat is certain to damage further both its image and authority.

M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, has already seen his popularity fall sharply as a result of his capitulation last month to students over planned university reforms. An opinion poll, published in this week's issue of *Paris-Match*, suggests that President Mitterrand would now have a remarkable 12 point lead over M Chirac in a straight

presidential election. However, the same poll shows that the right would still win handsomely a parliamentary election.

M Chirac is also facing increasing competition from M Raymond Barre, a former Prime Minister.

Although President Mitterrand avoided any explicit reference to the rail strike in his traditional televised new year's message to the nation, he called for peace on the industrial front in the interests of strengthening France's economy.

The already minimal train services were further reduced throughout France yesterday as a result of the extended strike action.

The talks on working conditions between the management, unions and government representatives ended in the early hours of yesterday morning after the management had made a new offer, including an increase in the number of rest days. The offer will now be put to local railworkers' committees, but union leaders said the concessions were inadequate.

The non-union National Co-ordinating Committee representing the striking workers called yesterday for a continuation of the strike until they had received satisfaction on their other demands, including a basic pay increase of 700 francs (£75) a month and back pay for the days lost in the strike.

Clouds of controversy hang over Rose Bird's last week

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles

Even in her last week in office, Chief Justice Rose Bird of California's Supreme Court, the first person voted out of the office in 50 years, has been unable to avoid controversy.

Chief Justice Bird and two associates, Justice Joseph Grodin and Justice Cruz Reynoso, also defeated in November's ballot, officially step down on Monday. But they have a backlog of dozens of cases to rule on, nearly half of them death penalty issues.

Already one case, the paroling of the convicted murderer, Gregory Ulas Powell, who shot Ian Campbell, a Los

Angeles policeman, has once again brought the Chief Justice into the firing line.

The murder was chronicled in the book *The Union Field* by Joseph Wambaugh and was later the subject of a film.

Powell, who was sentenced to die in the gas chamber but had his sentence commuted to life imprisonment, will now be eligible for parole as a result of the Supreme Court's ruling which overturned a prison board's decision not to give him his freedom.

The Attorney-General of California, Mr John van de Kamp, yesterday said he would ask the court to reconsider its decision, and is

hoping that by the time the case comes up again Chief Justice Bird and the two Justices will have been replaced.

A retired Los Angeles policeman, Mr Karl Hettlinger, who together with Campbell was kidnapped by Powell and Jimmie Lee Smith, said this week: "They should have been executed. They executed my friend and my partner."

Smith is already on parole. Despite the new controversy, Chief Justice Bird has barely had time to respond to the criticism because of the huge backlog which must be completed before she is suc-

ceeded by Justice Malcolm Lucas, named by California's conservative governor, Mr George Deukmejian.

To many voters, the frail, 50-year-old Chief Justice Bird epitomised everything that was wrong with the California judicial system — judges who are "soft" on crime and care more for the rights of criminals than their victims.

In her nine years in office, more than 60 death penalty cases were overturned, despite the fact that California voters have repeatedly upheld the death penalty for murder.

Over the objections of the outgoing Chief Justice Bird, the California Supreme Court for the first time in three years

upheld a death penalty case, ruling that the leader of a Fresno crime ring should die for ordering several murders while he was in prison.

Chief Justice Bird has disclosed little about her plans, except to say that she plans to write a book based on her career as California's first woman Chief Justice. She is also considering several jobs, including one in the law office of the feminist attorney, Ms Gloria Allred, whose liberal, anti-establishment image is on a par with the reputation Chief Justice Bird gained.

During her tenure, the state's highest court has been known for its vigorous applica-

tion of sex discrimination laws.

At public meetings the Chief Justice has spoken frequently about the uphill battle faced by women trying to succeed in public life, and she has blamed much of the trouble surrounding her tenure in the court on the fact that she was the first woman to have placed the jealousy-guarded male domain.

Meanwhile, Governor Deukmejian has sent a list of six judges, including one woman, as potential candidates for the three vacant California Supreme Court seats. The big surprise was the inclusion of a San Diego judge, Ms Patricia Beake, aged 37.

Protesters defy and hold illegal press for der

Pakistan engulfed by refugee wave

Greece and Turkey search of peace pact

Fifteen arrests in Peking

Protesters defy threats and hold illegal rally to press for democracy

Peking (Reuters) — A thousand people defied government threats, bans and blandishments to demand democracy at Peking's Tiananmen Square yesterday in the most dramatic rally of China's month-long student protest movement.

As New Year fireworks crackled over snowy Peking, students returned to their campuses after their bold defiance of a new law against demonstrations in the square that has seen momentous events in Chinese history.

The New China News Agency branded the protest seditious and quoted a Public Security Bureau official as saying the main trouble-makers would be punished according to the law.

The agency said several hundred people had taken part in the illegal rally. It reported a city official as saying that a few ringleaders had been taken away for what he termed education and interrogation.

A police official said that 15 had been detained and that they would be released promptly after "education".

Independent witnesses saw at least nine people seized by police in two hours of activity during which hundreds breasted a police cordon around the square aimed at forestalling just such an invasion.

The demonstrators sang "The Internationale", chanted pro-democracy slogans, and unfurled banners with slogans that demanded human rights and supported Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's leader, and political reform.

They twice surged against police lines after parading up and down the edge of the forbidden zone between Peking's main east-west boulevard and the Mao Tse-tung mausoleum. Scores of security men filmed and photographed the occasion.

The demonstrators, mostly young, appeared exhilarated by their challenge to authority despite the bleakness of the weather. During the night, the square was hit by a sheet of ice in temperatures 10 degrees below freezing.

City authorities had banned demonstrations at Tiananmen Square and some other key places in anticipation of the protest fever that swept Shanghai last month hitting the capital, where the political impact could be immense.

The scale of the rally was small compared to the days of agitation in which tens of thousands of Shanghai students, backed by workers, took to the streets demanding speedier political reform and a free press.

The People's Daily yesterday contained a left-wing broadside against what it said was a trend toward "bourgeois liberalization". The editorial accused a handful of people of trying to sabotage socialism and debilitate China by denying the leadership role of the Communist Party.

The newspaper also disclosed that a factory worker in Shanghai had been charged with counter-revolutionary activities, one of the gravest crimes under Chinese law. It said he tried to incite students to overthrow the Communist Party by joining his "Protect the People Party".

Chinese television showed film of Tiananmen Square, but not of demonstrators. Viewers saw only a group of Young Pioneers, the Communist youth organization, at a ceremony "for China's beautiful tomorrow". There were interviews with a worker, a soldier, a sailor and an actress, all urging the students to go back to their studies and not jeopardize social stability.

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A policeman, right, rushing in to arrest a fallen protester as students and police fight it out during a banned demonstration on the icy surface of Peking's Tiananmen Square.

Language ruling by court sparks violence in Quebec

From John Best, Ottawa

The ever-explosive language issue in predominantly French-speaking Quebec province has taken an ugly turn after a court ruling upholding the citizen's right to display signs in the English language.

The ruling, given by the Quebec Court of Appeal three days before Christmas, was followed by a firebombing and a wave of vandalism against Montreal stores displaying advertising signs in English as well as French. This week it was revealed that some Montreal police patrols had been ordered to be extra vigilant.

For many Canadians the present situation is vaguely but uncomfortably reminiscent of the late 1960s and the early 1970s, when groups campaigning for Quebec's separation from Canada resorted to terrorist tactics.

In the space of a few days in October 1970, a British Trade Commissioner, Mr James Cross, and the Quebec Minister of Labour, Mr Pierre Laporte, were kidnapped in Montreal. Mr Laporte was killed and Mr Cross was held captive for two months before being released in exchange for a promise of safe passage to Cuba for his abductors.

The recent court judgement struck down a section of Bill 101, Quebec's French-language charter, which states that, with some exceptions,

"signs and posters and commercial advertising shall be solely in the official language".

The official language of Quebec, set out in provincial law, is French. About 80 per cent of the province's 6.5 million people are French-speaking.

The court found that Bill 101's French-only requirement violates guarantees of freedom of expression in both the Canadian Bill of Rights and the Quebec Bill of Rights.

On the surface, the ruling appeared to strengthen the hand of the Liberal Premier of Quebec, Mr Robert Bourassa, in his declared intention of softening the provisions of Bill 101. The 10-year-old law was originally enacted by a Parti Quebecois Government that at the time advocated independence for Quebec.

Mr Bourassa must tread warily, however. A recent opinion survey suggested that 59 per cent of the French-speaking citizens of the province favoured keeping the requirement on French-only signs.

Quebec nationalist groups have long maintained that strong measures are necessary to keep French alive in a mainly English-speaking country on a continent dominated by another English-speaking country, the United States.

Victims of Afghan war

Pakistan engulfed by refugee wave

From Michael Hamlyn, Peshawar

Swaddled in dun-coloured shawls, leaning into the biting mountain wind, half starved, refugees from the battlefields of Afghanistan have still been pouring into neighbouring Pakistan.

Until snow closed the mountain passes of the Hindu Kush at the beginning of December, another 50,000 Afghan refugees made the long, anguished walk to escape the bombs, the crop-burning, the irreconcilable demands of both sides in the eight-year-long guerrilla war.

Unusually, this year the majority of those crossing the crazy divide have come from the far north of Afghanistan, from Kunduz or Faryab, from Baglan or even Mazari Sharif, which until recently has been regarded as a safe area.

The long distance they have had to walk means that they are arriving in very bad shape, says Brigadier Fahimullah Khattak, the official of the North West Frontier Province government charged with looking after the refugees.

His words are echoed by the officials of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, who add that they face another problem when they arrive here — since they are from the north they are not Pushto-speaking, like the bulk of the NWFP inhabitants and the first wave of migrants from just across the border. They speak Persian and find it difficult to find friends or relations among the hordes of travellers already settled here.

They are finding their welcome somewhat sketchy, too, since Pakistan already feels itself overwhelmed by the visitors.

There is no doubt that the Pakistan Government and people have made astonishing efforts to accommodate the largest flood of refugees the world has ever known. Official figures suggest that more than three million people have sought shelter here and that more than a quarter of Afghanistan's population has fled the Soviet invasion.

But the influx is no longer an emergency. The tented encampments have become

mad-hut villages. The relief effort now faces what the experts call "fatigue". The World Food Programme's supply of wheat, for example, covered refugee rations only up to September. For the past three months the free food has had to come from Pakistan's own wheat stocks, and Pakistan is a poor country.

The refugees compete with the locals in the hunt for food from the forests for fuel, for scarce hillside grazing for their stock, and even for water. They compete in the scuttled job market with labourers returning from the high wages of the Gulf, but the Afghans can undercut the Pakistanis because they already have free food and housing.

In the Kurram Agency, part of the tribal belt of the NWFP which protrudes into Afghanistan, the 350,000 registered refugees well outnumber the 200,000 local inhabitants. Here there is the added complication that the locals are largely Shia Muslims, while the immigrants are solidly Sunni. Not unnaturally, quarrels develop over grazing, over women, over religion.

In Peshawar, the capital of NWFP, the district contains half a million refugees, practically the same as the population of the city. Here a series of bomb blasts killing innocent people have set the local inhabitants' nerves on edge. Bomb blasts have been followed by general strikes against the presence of the refugees in the towns and the authorities have moved 50,000 Afghans out of the city.

The NWFP authorities are also trying to lighten their burden by asking the agriculturally and industrially rich state of Punjab to shoulder a greater share.

The United Nations has embarked on a series of projects too, aimed at making the refugees more acceptable to the local people as well as generating income. Reafforestation projects have been under way for three years, water resources have been enhanced with tube-wells and canals, and access roads are being built, joining the camps and the villages.

Greece and Turkey in search of peace pact

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Greece and Turkey, in the wake of the recent border incident which cost the lives of three soldiers, have been exchanging ideas on how to resolve the differences between them peacefully.

Although these exchanges have taken the form of acrimonious argument, Western observers here have noted the seeds of a more constructive dialogue.

A Greek government spokesman even went so far as to challenge Turkey to agree "here and now" to a joint submission of the problem of the Aegean continental shelf and its demarcation to the International Court of Justice.

He later clarified his statement, saying that it was not an offer of arbitration but a call for the application of international law.

The official accused Turkey of engineering the border incident to put pressure on Athens to re-negotiate the boundaries between the two countries, and said that the frontier was "non-negotiable".

He was replying to Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister, who had pointed out that the frontier clash had showed the need for a Greek-Turkish dialogue.

Mr Ozal, in the hope of allaying Greek misgivings about security, renewed his offer for a treaty of friendship and co-operation that would also guarantee the frontiers.

The Greek spokesman, while dismissing this offer as a trap, proposed that Turkey should instead rescind its veto on a 1981 proposal by Greece that the Nato alliance should guarantee the inviolability of the frontier.

The exchange of arguments between Athens and Ankara showed a marked disagreement over the procedure for a settlement of their differences.

Turkey insists on bilateral negotiations, clearly relying on the argument that its Army outnumbers that of Greece by at least four to one, while the Greeks prefer to dilute what they see as a military threat by interposing the good offices of third parties, such as Nato.

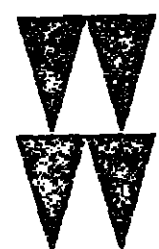


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By Our Foreign Staff

"We understand that unfortunately the ticket was not sold. As an organization, we are extremely sorry," the lottery chief, **M. Cevat Kani Uner**, said.

Cash down
Helsinki (Reuter) — Finland intends to pay its United Nations contribution ahead of time as a mark of support for the world body, President Mauno Koivisto said.

Drink up
Delhi (AP) — South Indians had their last drink of cheap locally brewed toddy on New Year's Eve in Tamil Nadu State. Partial prohibition was imposed yesterday.

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26



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THE ARTS

Hopeful formula

In those pockets of Soho which have not yet been given over to ringleted advertising men bellowing across plates of scallop sashimi, there is said to be a revival of live jazz. This music caters principally for those who are just old enough to remember the film *Absolute Beginners*. It is wonderful what advertising can do.

TELEVISION

Loose Tubes (Channel 4) followed the 21-piece jazz orchestra of that name on its first national tour. Young, white, male and dedicatedly unglamorous, the musicians were shown conducting a jazz "workshop" in Sheffield, as well as performing an "anti-apartheid hymn" and a flute piece named after a mountain.

While on the whole quite inoffensive, this was pretty dull going, and not unexpectedly the director failed to find a way of making instrumentalists interesting on camera. So that is how the cowbell is played. Shove-burned in between these orgies of braying, tweeting and pooping, one of their number offered an example of contemporary jazz idiom: "I thought, God, that guy's really good." Eric Partridge would have been scandalized. Just before I switched off, someone claimed that in this kind of music "literally anything could happen". Beware that hopeful formula: it invariably means the opposite.

Once again, the pick of Channel 4's evening was an ITV repeat, *Lightning - Act of God* marked Peter Greenaway's television debut in 1981, before he was given too much money to make the dreary *Drumheller's Contract* for the big screen. This arty layer-cake of interviews with the survivors of the strikes was remarkable both for the picture-postcard quality of its set-ups and for the complete absence of the phenomenon itself, which hovered in the wings like an unwanted special effect.

Those chosen to be electrocuted by God evinced varying degrees of awe at the experience, but religious speculation was kept to a minimum — and so too was the testimony of the woman who had been struck through the medium of her telephone in this delightful film, her voice came through a telephone receiver. Perhaps other documentary-makers might take a leaf from Mr Greenaway's book.

Martin Cropper

Mission of mercy

John Russell Taylor, in Rome, visits a striking collection of religious art

The purpose of the very remarkable show of *Treasures from Diocesan Museums*, sponsored by Alitalia at the Castel Sant'Angelo in Rome until January 31, seems to be twofold. On the one hand, obviously, it is a wonderful chance to bring together a collection of extraordinary and beautiful works of painting, sculpture and the jeweller's and metal-worker's art which would otherwise be scattered in often inaccessible places up and down Italy, and let the world see them. But also, if one may judge from the tone of the addresses preceding the opening, it must be considered important in Italy to familiarize the public with the idea of diocesan museums and what, exactly, they are meant to do.

Works from the collections of 39 museums are included in the show, so evidently the movement in favour of diocesan museums is well under way. And yet one of the clerical speakers felt it necessary to insist at the outset that they were not intended to plunder churches of their ob-



Jean-Claude Brialy (left), very much a Chabrol regular, as the sinister Alvarez and Jean-Pierre L  aud as the poker-faced Inspector Lavardin

Chabrol's unpretentious fun

Even minor Chabrol has more attractions than most films currently on offer. Unpretentious and effortless as pulp fiction, his thrillers reliably provide the satisfactions of professional dexterity alongside Chabrol's distinctive comic malice and delight in eccentric character.

Inspector Lavardin is a sequel to his 1984 thriller *Poulet au vinaigre* (shown in London as *Cop au vin*). It is minor Chabrol because Dominique Roilet's original novel offers no development in the character of Jean Lavardin — a comic French small-town version of Dirty Harry, played by Jean-Pierre L  aud — and provides a much less extravagant and ingenious story than its predecessor.

Lavardin arrives in a Breton seaside resort to investigate the murder of a prominent and very unimpressive Catholic writer. Quickly and inevitably he discovers that all is not quite what it seems in this polite little bourgeois community. The widow (Bernadette Lafont) proves not only to be his own long-ago old flame, but has also mysteriously misled an earlier husband. Then there is her live-in brother (Jean-Claude Brialy), whose sexual deviations attract some very bad characters to the bottom of the garden; and her demure, almost mousey daughter who sneaks off to town in the middle of the night.

Chabrol indulges his own weird, take-it-or-leave-it fun with the inconsequential story, the quirks of bourgeois manners, and some favourite members of his domestic repertory company. Brialy and Lafont go back

CINEMA

Inspecteur Lavardin (15)
Camden Plaza (January 9); Chelsea Cinema

Summer at Grandpa's
ICA Cinema

The Wraith (18)
Classic Panton Street

with him all the way to his first film, *Le Beau Serge*. Jean-Luc Bideau appeared later, but is an archetypal Chabrol slob. Poirot repeats his performance as the sly, poker-faced, gourmandizing Lavardin.

The quaint twist in the tale is the reversal of the regular morality of the detective story and the traditional vindication of the innocent. The anticlerical detective does out reward and punishment according to his own sentiments of right and wrong, always preferring to incriminate a bad person, even though he did not actually commit the crime in question, rather than a likeable one who did.

At the other side of the globe, in Taiwan, undercurrents of village life are viewed with equal shrewdness in Hsiao-Hsien Hou's enchanting *Summer at Grandpa's* — originally shown

here at the 1985 Edinburgh Festival. This is one of those rare films in which the characters are so skilfully and wholly revealed in their human depths that the exotic faces and places are hardly noticed. This is every remembered childhood summer.

Two attractive, lively, often naughty children are sent to their grandparents' house while their mother is sick in hospital. Through their brightly observant eyes we discover the comedies, dramas and marvels of rural life. They overcome infant prejudices to make friends with the local kids; they discover the kinder qualities of their forbidding, old-world doctor grandfather. Their favourite young uncle falls into disgrace by getting his girlfriend in the family way, and they catch a couple of thieves; and all the time there are new diversions like the local bird-catcher and grandmother's family album.

Hou's subsequent film, *A Time to Live and a Time to Die* — a family saga on a more epic scale, about life in Taiwan in the Fifties and Sixties — was shown at the London Film Festival in November, and corroborated the evidence of *Summer at Grandpa's* that here is an outstanding talent. The charm of his work is the ability to see the influence on the human drama of the most familiar, universal and fundamental problems, like uncle's martyrdom to piles, or the little girl's inconvenient toilet requirements. Under Hou's direction, the children become formidable clowns: a scene where the little sister takes revenge for being left out when the boys go swimming, by

pinching their clothes, deserves a place in any anthology of screen comedy.

The Wraith is an opportunistic amalgam of the hot-rod picture and the supernatural revenge movie, with a touch of sloppy romance just so that the teenage girls get a look in as well as the boys who will be its principal audience. The oddity of the film is the number of Hollywood offspring who take part in it.

Nick Cassavetes (son of John) plays a pathologically violent bully, whose entourage of punkish goons get high on lubricating oil, and include Griffin O'Neal, son of Ryan, and Clint Howard, brother of Ron Howard, director of *Splash* and *Cocoon*. As soon as Charlie Sheen, son of Martin, arrives in town, strange things begin to happen — all involving retribution for the murder of the brother of Matthew Barry (son of the playwright Philip James Barry). There the Happy Families end, as a ghostly blacked-out Turbo Interceptor streaks around the country roads, and the gang are wiped out one by one in spectacular incinerations.

At the press show, the reels were run in the wrong order, but with this kind of story it really makes very little difference. It may even be better this way, since it adds to the fun when the goons pop up again as large as life 10 minutes after cremation. The film was written and directed by Mike Marvin, who does not seem to be anybody's son, but whose previous credits include the script for *Holocaust* — *The Movie* and the direction of *Hamburger*.

David Robinson

EXHIBITION

W.S. Gilbert
British Library

The man who said "I fancy posterity will know as little of me as I shall know of posterity", and whose main trade was lampooning the British Establishment, would doubtless be surprised to find the 150th anniversary of his birth celebrated by an exhibition in the British Library. But W.S. Gilbert was not unaccustomed to surprises.

He was, after all, kidnapped by brigands in Naples when he was two, and a comic writer can hardly ask for a better start to life than that. (Is it the baby-swapping business in *Gondoliers*, *Pirates of Penzance* that is supposed to represent the subconscious reworking of that traumatic episode?) And, if Gilbert had written his own obituary, he would probably have reflected wryly that it is indeed a topsy-turvy world in which a satirist whose craft is founded on all matters of honour, romance and courage should have died of a heart-attack after rescuing a woman from drowning.

The BL's small exhibition (until February 28) — some 45 manuscripts, notebooks, letters and photographs — casts more light on the playwright than on the man. Some of the letters, however, have an evocative quality. There is Gilbert the new army recruit, reassuring his young wife with a cheerful catalogue of the severest penalties in the Articles of War. There is a missive from Gilbert's mother who, knowing her son abhorred his middle name, begins "Dear Schwenck". Most fascinating of all for the Gilbert-and-Sullivan addicts, there are two of the most stinging epistles from the great "carpet" dispute which more or less wrecked the two men's relationship.

Of Gilbert's 71 stage works, only 14 were collaborations with Sullivan, but the exhibition is probably right to give these prominence. The prompt-book for *Trial by Jury* reveals that in 1884 a "trick change to Fairland" enhanced the ending (for no immediately obvious reason) and that Gilbert decreed that "for Finale picture the Plaintiff gets on the Judge's back".

There is also evidence of what is possibly Gilbert's first brush with censorship. The Lord Chamberlain's copy of the 1873 political comedy *The Happy Land* reveals an official order to call three of the leading characters something other than Mr G, Mr L and Mr A (hardly covert references to Gladstone and two other leading Liberals). Gilbert never again made such an elementary mistake. The names he changed, the cutting-edge of his satire he merely sharpened.



Self-portrait entitled "Kitten's Old Boy". "Kitten" was Gilbert's nickname for his wife, and the signature, "Bab", was his own childhood nickname.

Patience was the first opera staged at Carte's new Savoy Theatre, and the programme-book alludes subtly to its proudest innovation. Sketches of the *Patience* characters form a border round the front cover; closer inspection reveals that the interwoven motif is of electric light bulbs and wire. Of the autographs, the most poignant is that of the *Yeoman of the Guard* lyric "Is life a boon?" in several preparatory stages, probably the nearest Gilbert ever came to writing metatextual poetry, and he clearly laboured long over its pastiche Walter Raleigh, maudlin quality.

No one knows for certain which was Gilbert's first published writing, since his contributions to the feeble *Fun* magazine often went in under a pen-name. But the exhibition does display an 1869 issue in which the title *Bab Ballads* made its first appearance in print, as well as Gilbert's first published drama, a burlesque on Hugo's *Ruy Blas* (scarcely more funny than the original, alas).

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Richard Morrison

CONCERT

Songmakers'
Almanac
Wigmore Hall

Appropriately enough, on the last evening of the year, Graham Johnson exploited here the more literal implications of his ensemble's name. This carefully compiled programme presented 31 songs, poems or aphorisms: one for each day in January.

Along its course we celebrated the births of Tippett, Ivor Novello, Schubert, Mozart and (so it seemed) nearly every French composer of the limpid variety: mourned the deaths of Churchill, Stephen Foster and Lewis Carroll; and remained fairly calm about such makeweights as J.P. Eckermann's diary entry for January 10, 1830.

However, a preponderance of solemn Hugo Wolf, and the inclusion of a considerable number of songs about old age, lost opportunities, the dearly departed and the nearly departed, did make this concert one to miss if New Year's Eve depresses you anyway. The general mood veered between morbidity and a mel-

ancholy whimsy, epitomized by Stephen Varcoe's rendition of Novello's "And her mother came too".

Still, there were some sterling contributions from Felicity Palmer, who delivered Gounod's setting of "Ring out, wild bells" with steeple-shaking conviction, then floated the lovely phrases of Chausson's "Hebe" with welcome gentleness. And Patricia Rozario was admirably steady in tone, particularly when surmounting the heights of Delibes's "Myrtos".

Making his Almanac debut, Nicholas Sears revealed a pleasant but very light-hearted tone that sounded more suited to the drawing-room dialogues of Stephen Foster and Liza Lehmann than to the more portentous corners of the song repertoire. His Winston Churchill impression, however, is almost in the Robert Hardy class.

As usual, Graham Johnson accompanied stylishly and drew the disparate poetic strands together with intelligence and pace, though the trimming of Eliot's "Journey of the Magi" seemed odd. Personally, though, I should not have been "glad of another death" in this programme.

Richard Morrison

Bergman still in full cry

THEATRE IN SWEDEN

Hamlet
Royal Dramatic,
Stockholm

Anyone who has followed Ingmar Bergman's stage career since his early postwar venture into the world of Shakespeare with a vexatious production of *Macbeth*, in which the stage was peopled with corpses strung up on gibbets as a reminder of what had been done to the Russian partisans not so long since, should have been able to take the strident innovations of this *Hamlet* in his stride.

Bergman's preoccupations with political, religious and sexual references are once again given full vent, as they were in his astonishing *King Lear* of three years ago. This was astonishing not least because, despite its unprecedented international success, nobody thought fit to have it brought to England at the time. The visit of Bergman's *Hamlet* to the Lyttelton on May 1, when Peter Stormare will be seen both as the Danish Prince — wearing Bergman's familiar laurel at one point in the second half — and as Jean in Strindberg's *Miss Julie* a week later, should do something to make up for this omission.

England should be fairly familiar with Bergman's theatrical foibles, since they have remained consistent ever since Sir Peter Danbury imported his *Ulysses* to London some 30 years ago. The moral precepts behind the cynicism and the wilful struggle for power that reflect the world of *Hamlet*'s times are not far removed from those of our own day and age.

Bergman seized on this notion by staging Shakespeare's tragedy as a play within a play, in which the "observed of all observers" can behold the world of the poet's creation as well as one of his own, nearer our own time. This idea is neatly planted as Dramatena's red-and-gold plush front-curtain rises at the start to reveal a second, identical painted curtain, and as this one in turn rises to give way to an inner stage-drop behind which Goran W  stberg's spare and forbidding grey-and-black



Peter Stormare, soon to be seen in two major roles at the National Theatre, ever fascinating to watch as Hamlet, with Pernilla Ostergren as Ophelia

space-stage presently appears out of the gloom. And when, at the climax, after Hamlet expires, Fortinbras blasts his way into the royal palace with his posse of ironclad storm-troopers with a deafening din, liquidates Horatio and disposes of the stage-bodies into the communal grave over which the Grave-digger with his music-hall ditties had earlier presided, we know that the wheel of power politics has come full circle. All the world is Bergman's stage. It is no mere theatrical trick that on such a stage, and in such a world, ghosts of the dead, be they the King's or Ophelia's, may come and go to witness the goings-on unseen. Here, literally, "anything goes".

If this reads like an apology for Bergman's theatrical madness, it must also be said that there is method in it. Some Swedish critics took a contrary view, and found Fortinbras's final eruption to television cameras and rock-music, for instance, hard to swallow.

Ossia Trilling

William Doyle
GALLERIES

Auction: Wednesday, January 7 at 10 a.m.

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including Fine 19th Century Furniture, Paintings and Decorations, Art Nouveau and Art Deco

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For further information, contact Michael D. Mev (212) 427-4230. ESTIMATES: Sat. Jan. 3, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. Jan. 4, noon-5 p.m.; Mon. Jan. 5, 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Tues. Jan. 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

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Janice Cairns Lisa
Sarah Walker The Countess
Conductor Lionel Friend
Producer David Pountney
Designer Maria Bj  rson

Tonight & Jan 7, 10 at 7.30 —
lost parts of the acclaimed
Janetis double-bill
OSUD/The Diary of
One Who Disappeared
Costume Philip Langridge
Elene Hannon
Emile Belcourt, Ludmila Andrew
Paul Crossley (piano)
Arthur Davies, Jean Rigby
Conductor Mark Elder
Producer David Pountney
Designer Stefanos Lazaridis

Ossia Trilling

FRIDAY PAGE

From a desert to a vacuum

The starving of Africa have become familiar victims, if only through television.

But what of those who went to help and have returned haunted by images and a sense of rootlessness?

Caroline Moorehead met some victims who are trying to cope

Sarah Barnes is a highly trained, extremely experienced children's nurse — experienced, that is, in nursing malnourished and dying children in areas of famine and disaster. At 27, she has already spent a year in Thailand, many months in India and Nepal and a year in east Sudan. But, in the eyes of the National Health Service at least, she is just an ordinary member of staff.

When her last contract with Oxfam in the Sudan ended, she decided that her marriage deserved a spell of settled work in Britain and she joined a London hospital. She was used to administering an enormous camp, to making decisions about life and death, to talking to reporters and reporting to UN officials; now she found herself having to ask the ward sister whether she could make a bed.

"I couldn't stand it," she says. "I had been handling so much on my own. There you play God and though it's frightening, it makes something of you. I resented the fact that no one was even faintly interested in anything I had learnt. I was simply put at the bottom of the ladder again. When a doctor came round describing his brief few weeks in disaster relief no one cared that I had spent nearly three years doing the same thing."

Before long, she left her hospital, took a training course in obstetrics and then another in health visiting. She doesn't know what she'll do next.

She is not alone in her sense of unease and professional bafflement. Many aid workers — doctors, technicians and ambulance drivers — are finding it almost impossible to settle back into old routines of work and previously contented marriages. Not only do they feel themselves to be better doctors and nurses, more competent administrators, more "vocal" and vigorous, but they have also acquired a new dimension, a new sense of morality, that they find difficult to handle.

Dr Aroop Mezunda, working with the Save the Children Fund, was the only doctor in east Sudan when the great exodus from Eritrea and Tigre began in the autumn of 1984. Over a period of a few weeks, 85,000 people arrived in his camp; they died at the rate of 20 to 30 a day. "It was like a bottomless pit," he says. "I didn't know it would ever end. It does teach you about humility; you are only very small, and there is very little you can do."



Withdrawal symptoms: Aid workers Sarah Barnes, Dr Aroop Mezunda (top) and David Elloway, feeling like displaced persons themselves

Dr Mezunda is now back in London; he, too, is wondering what to do next. Contemplating life as a GP, he says "coughs and colds seem a little pale."

Until two years ago, European aid workers went out to the refugee camps of the Third World only in small numbers. There were so few that their personal stories and dilemmas made them unique. With the famine in northern Ethiopia and

to eat, engulfed in a persistent miasma of disease and despair. They had probably never even imagined that there could be so many desperate, sickly and powerless people.

It is true that some of the earliest aid workers, with too little preparation and too little support, could not cope and had to be flown home. This made the agencies wary, so there is now intensive screening of volunteers, and field directors are vigilant in detecting the depression or megalomania that can develop when things get too tough. But what is not monitored is the effect of coming home.

Doctors who have studied aid workers arriving in the field find their reactions to those of soldiers at war. Volunteers survive the appalling conditions, the deaths and their own sense of impotence by devising their own particular mechanisms of defence: some bake cakes, some play pop music, some drive as far away as they can during their hours off. All talk, like Dr Mezunda, of the crucial importance of self-discipline.

There is comfort, too, in the camaraderie, the sense of a crisis shared, enabling them to pool their disgust at the television crews who fry up bacon and sausages within yards of people who have nothing to eat, or the visiting missions which include a chef — in the traditional white hat — to cook the meals.

None of this, however, protects the volunteers when they leave. Many experience immediate euphoria when they realize that they can again drink the water, have a rest, see green grass and not have to steel themselves to incessant death. The relief does not last long. "After about a week," one man explains, "the guilt begins; you wonder how you can bear to be part of such a selfish society."

'When the guilt begins, you wonder how you can be part of such a selfish society'

Again, returning volunteers compare their feelings to those of soldiers returning to their families after war. "Many simply find their lives completely altered," says Dr John Seamen, medical director of the Save the Children Fund. "They just can't do all the things they had planned to do; their sense of urgency has altered."

No one understands what they have been through. A gap separates them from friends and relatives. Jane Robertson, a nurse with SCF, back in England after six months, found herself peering, appalled, into



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Clear way forward

This year is the tenth anniversary of the introduction of the technique of clearing blocked coronary arteries. Called a coronary angioplasty, the obstructing fatty plaques are flattened against the arterial wall with an inflatable balloon which is introduced into the coronary circulation along a guidewire manipulated, under X-ray control, from an artery in the patient's arm or leg.

Britain lags behind other medically advanced countries in this treatment. In more than 100,000 cases dealt with worldwide in this way in 1985, only 750 were carried out in the United Kingdom. In Holland and Germany, for instance, angioplasty is used for a quarter of the patients who need surgical intervention to relieve angina or prevent coronary thrombosis.

Writing in *Modern Medicine*, Mr Edgar Sowton, of Guy's Hospital, says a great advantage of angioplasty is

that it can be carried out under a local anaesthetic and that as no heart/lung bypass during surgery is needed the dangers of brain or kidney damage are avoided.

Angioplasty, he says, is most suitable for those patients who are comparatively young, have not had a coronary thrombosis and whose hearts are not enlarged. It is not suitable, however, for those patients who have long segments of their arteries obstructed or if they have many narrowed stretches of artery in the coronary circulation.

With careful selection, more than 90 per cent of patients can expect to be home within 2-3 days and, as there is no convalescent period, can be back at work within a week.

Angina recurs in 20 per cent of patients, but nearly always a second treatment gives excellent results. Angioplasty is also useful in reopening a grafted vein which has closed after a standard bypass operation, avoiding the need for a technically difficult second bypass operation.

Light on overshadowed disease

Although Aids has dominated the news, research continues into other kinds of sexually transmitted diseases, and two recent reports on herpes and warts throw light on the way these diseases spread. Although evidence suggests that herpes can be spread by sexual intercourse in the absence of herpetic sores, the chances of catching it when a partner has sores is very much greater. Dr Steven Strauss, in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, cites scientific evidence confirming that the virus can be isolated from asymptomatic men and that the infection can be spread to a partner at this stage. Dr Strauss stresses that herpes in most patients is a mild disease and that severe recurrent attacks are the exception rather than the rule. A report from the Minnesota Medical School and the Jikei School of Medicine in Tokyo has shown that warts can be spread through the semen of patients suffering from warts.

Hidden clues

Although the physical signs and blood tests suggest that the enlargement of President Reagan's prostate is due to benign hypertrophy — the overgrowth of prostatic tissue — nobody can be certain until the pathologist examines the tissue under the microscope. The classical clinical signs of carcinoma of a prostate are either a gland which feels almost stony hard; or a soft irregular gland with firm nodules. But these are often absent so that many cases are diagnosed only by the pathologist. A raised blood acid phosphatase, which should always be estimated in any older men with urinary problems and/or back pain, usually becomes positive only when the tumour has extended or spread, so that it is not a useful pointer to malignant changes confined to the gland.

Fast killer

The Japanese are abandoning their traditional diet of rice and fish for hamburgers and convenience foods. In Japan last year, there were more than twice as many fast food vending machines per head of the population than in the United States. The effect of this change on the health of

Red herrings

Housewives frequently avoid buying mackerel as it can cause scombroid poisoning, causing itching and burning of the skin, severe headache, vomiting and diarrhoea. Opting for herrings instead, which never cause this trouble, may be reducing the beneficial effects of fish oil on blood pressure and fats, for a recent report suggests that mackerel has a much greater influence on these factors than herrings. During a trial, 14 men were given diets rich in mackerel and herrings; eating mackerel, their serum fats and blood pressure fell between eight to 28 per cent. A herring diet seemed to have no such immediate effect.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

'Out there you are playing God, and though it is frightening, it makes something of you'

the north and extreme west of the Sudan that began in the spring of 1984, their numbers multiplied. Last year, 47 organizations had representatives in Ethiopia alone. There is no longer anything special in the experience — but the problems of readjustment have become if anything more acute.

This is partly because of the trauma of the original challenge. Most of the relief workers who reached the refugee camps had never seen people starving or watched children die; they had never lived in great heat, with little

When the A Team infects the A stream

FIRST PERSON

Collecting my five-year-old son from school the other day, I could tell something was wrong. He soon told me what it was: he had been chased, knocked over, sat on and kicked by three "playmates" during the afternoon break. He sounded more bewildered than upset by it, and he was unmarked, so it was obviously not serious. But this was only the latest in a sorry saga of playground incidents.

The first was a karate chop to the nose, clearly delivered with some conviction. I happened to be picking him up that day too, and he was delivered to me with a carrier bag full of his heavily blood-stained clothing. Shortly after that came a kick to the crotch (this from a girl!) and then the worst, a collision during a playground chase which knocked three front teeth so far back they were within an ace of being uprooted. All this in his first few weeks of school.

Now this is certainly not one of nature's victims: he is a strapping boy, cheerful and outgoing. Nor does he attend a "rough" school, or anything like it: it is an excellent infants' school and we are as happy as he is with it. Nor is there any lack of playground supervision.

Why then do incidents like these happen, even in such well-regulated schools? As so often, I fear, there are reasons which are beyond the school's control: they are to do with what is going on in the outside world. One dangerous development is the fascination, even among very young children, with the "martial arts" — usually in their more extreme forms. It is now quite normal



'He-Man and the Masters of the Universe' wage war on intergalactic evil at 4.20.

Out of the screen, into the playground: do *Masters of the Universe* and Mr T turn television tots into break-time terrorists?

for four-year-olds to be enrolled in classes which teach Kung Fu, Chinese kick-boxing and similar ritualized violence.

The most intelligent and responsible four-year-old is unlikely to take away much from these lessons but a sense of excitement and power. And unfortunately such classes do not attract the more intelligent and responsible, but rather the children least able to distinguish between fantasy and reality, and least subject to parental guidance.

Fantasy violence, in which violent acts have only fairy-tale consequences and take place in an unreal and amoral world, is now the staple of an entire children's sub-culture. Television is, of course, at the heart of it, with programmes like the *Masters of the Universe* cartoons, *The A Team*,

Knight Rider and (in a different way) *The Dukes of Hazzard*. These programmes have a huge and enthusiastic following among children as young as three, even two years old. I have come across some of these TV tots myself, and have seen at first hand how such programmes affect their behaviour.

The old argument about television and violence is treacherous ground, and it is rash to draw firm conclusions; but one area which never seems to be seriously considered is the effect of TV on the behaviour of very young children, between two and four years old. At this age they are infinitely suggestible, with only a shaky grasp of the distinction between fact and fantasy. Unfortunately, those who have the most access to television are likely to be those

whose parents never tell them anything useful about the real world. Children this young, left to their own devices in front of a TV set, are going to pick up a very warped idea of the world — and are going to be dangerously over-excited by the violence they see.

I have observed the effects with my own eyes and, however slight or non-existent they may become as the child grows older, at this age they are immediate, obvious and dramatic: the children run amok.

This is where the school playground comes in. It only takes a few of these children — obsessed with fantasy violence and needing only the slightest trigger to run amok — to create break-time mayhem. Anyone with experience of children this age can spot the wrong 'uns — not only by their

behaviour but by an unresponsive, animal-like look in the eye.

Infant school teachers now have to lecture their charges regularly on the dangers of practising "martial arts" and imitating their fantasy heroes in the playground. They know there are some among them who have to be taught what nobody else has thought to tell them — that violence actually hurts its victims. A karate chop or a high kick making contact is no joke in the asphalt jungle of the playground, whatever it may look like on television. But until they have learnt that lesson, the school playground is not a happy place for their unfortunate "playmates".

Nigel Andrew

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THE TIMES DIARY

Minor triumph

The New Year peering for Sir Edwin Bramall must have roused conflicting emotions in his brother, Sir Ashley Bramall, veteran Labour politician and former chairman of the GLC. Sir Ashley left the army for politics after the war, entering the Commons in 1945 and losing Bexley to Ted Heath in 1950. He was toppled as leader of the Inner London Education Authority in 1981 in the same putsch that saw Andrew McIntosh replaced by Ken Livingstone as GLC leader. Although, in an apparent snub to Livingstone by Michael Foot, McIntosh was raised to the Lords, Sir Ashley was not. Now, ironically, it is Edwin, the younger brother who stayed in the services and rose to field marshal, who will address the great affairs of state in the Lords: Sir Ashley, the dedicated politician, remains on the political sidelines.

Hate gospel

Piers Paul Read, whose steamy Roman Catholic novels such as *A Married Man* and *The Professor's Daughter* are enjoyed by the faithful and the prurient in equal numbers, is vying with James Anderton for the moral high ground over Aids. In a letter to the *Catholic Herald*, Read avers that sodomy is one of four sins "crying to Heaven for vengeance". While doubting that a New Testament God should punish sinners in such an "Old Testament way" as Aids, he concludes that such behavior is sinful, and so should the spread of the disease. Holidaying in Yorkshire, he tells me he is bracing himself for the hate mail.

BARRY FANTONI



"Funny going back with a chap and actually seeing his etchings"

Be your guest

Tory MPs Neil Hamilton and Gerald Howarth, who received £20,000 apiece from the BBC in settlement of a libel action against *Panorama*, are throwing a victory bash on January 14 at the Mail Galleries. Just in case anyone has missed the point, the following message is appended to the invitations: "Admission only on production of valid television licence as proof that you have already paid for the celebrations".

Inhouse

Nowhere, it seems, is the BBC safe from the threat of libel action — not even from its own journalists. Days after pulling the Ronnie Biggs' *Ship-Up* for fear of a writ, its weekly magazine, *The Listener*, today prints a humiliating apology to BBC-TV's court correspondent, Michael Cole. Back in May he had been accused by the paper's TV critic, John Naughton, both of sycophancy and being aged but 22. Fresh-faced Cole was stung into consulting lawyers and seven months on *The Listener* has withdrawn "the wholly unwarranted remarks" about "a highly professional journalist of many years' standing". Naughton confessed yesterday that Cole had turned out to be every bit of 43. Standing by his man, *Listener* editor Russell Twiss, tells me: "I hope John continues as TV critic for ever."

Acid test

Was George III's madness caused by lead? The theory is mooted in the latest edition of *New Scientist* by John Emsley, reader in chemistry at King's College, London. According to Emsley, the king had a passion for lemonade and sauerkraut. Both were produced in lead-glazed pottery, and both contained high acid levels which could, in time, have dissolved enough lead to poison the monarch. Hence his madness, which contributed to the loss of the American colonies. The theory could be tested by digging up the king's bones and measuring how much lead they contain. Whether the Royal Family would agree to this is unlikely.

Dividing line

Advertising for librarians in a Library Association supplement, *Haringey* explains that it is intent on correcting the under-representation of the Cypriot community in its Community Information Service. Carefully taking no side in the island's internal strife, the rest of the advertisement is published half in Greek, half in Turkish. My informant, a recently-qualified librarian, whose knowledge of Turkish is non-existent and of Greek confined to six months New Testament studies, writes: "I cannot be certain whether I am eligible for either or both of these posts — although I suspect not."

PHS

Can we believe these papers?

by Patrick Cosgrave

The release of state papers on the Suez affair (nearly 90 ft in shelf length of them), preceded by the ludicrous attempt by the Cabinet Office to prevent publication of the Chamberlain diaries held at Birmingham University, predictably revived questions about availability of papers of historical interest which have been raised since before the passage of the Public Records Act of 1958.

How long should papers of political and historical importance be kept from academic and public sight? What is the establishment trying to conceal? Does the public not have a right to know? Is not the waning process (by which civil servants are empowered to keep some of the papers back each year) yet another example of the deplorable secrecy with which the business of British government is carried on?

It is all very exaggerated. My revered teacher, the late Herbert Butterfield, once pronounced as follows: "Within ten years of any important historical event the intelligent student has the essential truth about it. Thereafter there is a decline in the quality of historical knowledge. Once the

papers start to be released there is an absolute decline in the quality of historical knowledge. This goes on for somewhere near a hundred years. At about a hundred years we start getting it right again."

There is an almost irresistible — and very human — tendency to believe that papers which we are not allowed to see contain vital material, and will tell us the truth. There is also an almost irresistible — and equally human — tendency on the part of public servants to fear the use that may be made of papers once they are released.

There are several cautionary observations to be made about the tackling of a newly available archive. First, the bigger an archive the greater the tendency to select material out of context. Second — the paradox is merely apparent, not real — the more slender the material available on any subject, the greater the temptation to exaggerate the importance of anything new that comes to hand. Moreover, as Butterfield observed in another of his dicta, "The tendency, when

new material appears, is to build it in to what one already believes about the subject. The true scholar tears down the whole structure of his own belief, and starts again." But there are few scholars of that calibre about at any given time when the subject is as controversial as Suez one can see how easy it is to confirm, rather than rebut, often unconscious prejudice.

Third, such is the hypnotic attraction of a manuscript archive that it induces a willingness to undervalue secondary sources — memoirs, contemporary or near-contemporary reports, and the like reflections of individuals close to the action. Such productions frequently provide insights to which the papers merely offer correctives. Such is the tyranny of the archival source that the student often neglects the secondary; he does so at his peril.

A diary, published or unpublished, must always be considered as a primary source — though one must beware of its inevitably egotistical character, and one must do one's best to check whether the

author did not deliberately tamper with his material. Some years ago that fine historian Robert Rhodes James gave an illustration of the danger of depending on diaries. He had edited the diaries of "Chips" Channon and was reviewing the diaries of Harold Nicolson. He set down, side by side, the accounts given by the two men of a dinner party at which Churchill was present. They were blatantly contradictory, and the contradiction arose from the two men's mutual dislike; both accounts were, therefore, valueless.

The golden rule is to set down nothing, by way of fact or judgement, that cannot be checked against at least two independent sources, but if that rule were observed, precious little history would ever be written. Since it is desirable, however, that history should be written, the historian should proceed with care, and resist the temptation to fall in love with his own sources. A newly opened archive may, quite reasonably, be greeted with excitement. But the excitement should be heavily tinged with suspicion, and the initial assumption should be that the archive is lying.

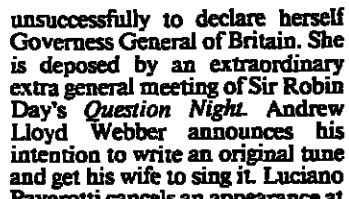
Old Miles's Almanac (Part 2)



A sensational general election result: the Alliance and Labour each win nearly 300 seats and the Tories a bare 20 or 30. David Owen goes to the Palace to receive the Queen's blessing as the new prime minister, so confusingly, do David Steel and Neil Kinnock. The deadlock is not helped by a video message from the kidnapped Terry Waite, looking spruce and well, offering to come back and mediate and, if necessary, to become prime minister himself. Without a government, the economy makes a surging recovery. Samantha Fox, who had withdrawn from the election at the last moment on the grounds that she did not want to be thought of as a prominent member, announced her intention to mount an expedition to rescue Terry Waite. Many people try to dissuade her. The last 1986 pantomime comes off. Mr Keith Waterhouse announces the production of a new version of *Carmen* set in the bosom of the Pooter family. Amid intense speculation, the Duchess of York fails to become pregnant; the tabloid papers blame it on Willie Whitelaw's chastity drive and call for his resignation. At his home in Chastity Drive, Willie Whitelaw reiterates his plea: don't do as I do, and don't do as I say, just don't do it. It gets to No 7 in the charts. Quote of the month comes from Sir Robert Armstrong: "This is not a statement and I am not saying it".



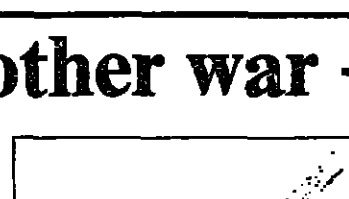
Sensational development in the long drawn-out election saga; the Tory Party, which with its 20 seats holds the balance of power, says it will collaborate with either of the two leading parties on condition that Mrs Thatcher becomes prime minister. While they are studying this proposal, Mrs Thatcher sneaks back into 10 Downing Street for her famous Nine Days of Power, during which she attempts



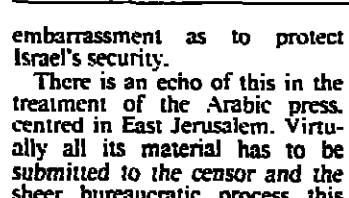
unsuccessfully to declare herself Governor General of Britain. She is deposed by an extraordinary extra general meeting of Sir Robin Day's *Question Night*. Andrew Lloyd Webber announces his intention to write an original tune and get his wife to sing it. Luciano Pavarotti cancels an appearance at the Proms and is replaced by a new production of *Carmen* set in an American football game. *Carmen*, played by Samantha Fox, is sent off early in the game for not wearing padding. Ronald Reagan announces an ambitious new programme called *White House Wars*; it consists of placing a defensive shield of very big policemen round the White House to stop Clint Eastwood getting in. Robert Armstrong says: "If you were the only girl in the world, I would issue a statement when the time seemed right".



Britain is still without a leader, as neither the Alliance nor the Labour Party will agree to a leader from the other party. Geoff Boycott, leader of the three-MP All Yorkshire group, offers to become prime minister. So do Screaming Lord Sutch, Ian Paisley, Brian Redhead, Robert Robinson and Samantha Fox. Public agitation grows to give the job to Bob Geldof, on the grounds that he is the only candidate to tell people what they can do with it. Andrew Lloyd Webber announces his intention of setting his Requiem to music. Keith Waterhouse announces a new ballet based on *The Diary of a Nobody*. The organizers of the America's Cup race, which is still going on in Australia, order a complete rerun from the start after all the boats involved are declared illegal. Clint Eastwood rides up to the entrance of the White House and shoots his way in without much trouble. Rumours spread that Willie Whitelaw is suffering from Aids, based on his curiously slow speech and pale looks. Sir Robert Armstrong is heard to say: "It may be a long way to Tipperary and it may not be a long way to Tipperary — much depends on who wants to know the answer".



The Queen announces that as she is tired of waiting for a good candidate to emerge for No 10, she has decided to appoint someone to the job who knows what he is doing. There is some surprise when this turns out to be a leading Japanese businessman, but the British public quickly comes to terms with the idea that, as everything else is controlled by Japan, the government might just as well be too. Mr Kamasawa says that nothing will change, except



the killing of two Palestinians by secret service men after an attack on a bus in 1984; other agents wanted publicity to force an inquiry into the official cover-up. This method also seems to have been chosen by aides of Shimon Peres, the former prime minister, who wanted it known that an internal inquiry had found that he was not responsible for recruiting Jonathan Pollard, an American naval technician, to spy for Israel. But during the Vanunu affair the censor has been working overtime, vainly trying to plug leaks. The original story would certainly have been stopped if it had been written in Israel and it is unlikely that any correspondent here would have tried to file it. But the question of how Vanunu was brought, against his will, to Israel is not obviously a security question. His disclosures may be viewed here as treason, but Israel should have applied for his extradition or made sure that his arrest was perfectly legal.



It was because of the suspicion that the arrest was illegal that foreign correspondents persisted in reporting the case. The blocking of all such stories led to the belief that the censorship was political rather than military. Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, was asked about the affair in a Christmas day interview: "Our public has to be habituated, taught, that there are some things that must remain in the shadows, for the good of the country," he said. "Not everything has to be exposed." That evidently includes the palms of Vanunu's hands, which he used to tell the world that he had been hijacked in Rome — a politically embarrassing claim which the military censor vainly tried to silence.



Israel papers can report what the foreign media are saying; so, once the story has appeared somewhere in the world, the censor can do nothing. This backdoor method has been used, not only by journalists, but by disgruntled civil servants and politicians. This was the case over

that Clive James will be placed under arrest for many insults to Japanese television. Samantha Fox declares that she is sick and tired of being thought of as a mature British citizen and takes all her clothes off for a magazine. In America, the final showdown between Ronald Reagan and Clint Eastwood takes place on live, prime time television; Reagan attempts to nuke Clint Eastwood, but Eastwood is protected by a defensive shield of three-day stubble which is proof against any weapon. Unnerved, Reagan rides off into the sunset and is never seen again. Sir Robert Armstrong says: "Blessed are those that say nothing, for they shall never get into trouble."



Prime Minister Kamasawa announces that, as part of the British export drive, the Royal Family, Harrods and the Tower of London will be permanently resited in Tokyo. There is only the slightest resistance. Terry Waite reappears in Britain, to a sensational welcome. He says that it only took him nearly a year to negotiate his own release. When asked where he was and who his captors were, he says he cannot reveal their identity for fear of endangering other people kept captive. A rumour grows that he has been kept in captivity all this time by the Archbishop of Canterbury. A new production of *Carmen* opens, set in a Sunday-only DIY supermarket on the outskirts of Wolverhampton. It is forcibly closed under the Sunday Observance Act. Willie Whitelaw warns people not to Mrs Thatcher goes into a convent. Princess Michael of Kent writes another book, though she does not say whose it is. Clint Eastwood announces a new programme to keep peace in the world called *Movie Wars*; he intends to put a defensive shield of his own films round the world by satellite. Samantha Fox says she is sick and tired of being thought of as a woman, and changes sex. Sir Robert Armstrong says: "A Happy Christmas to you all, though not from me."

Miles Kingston

Reagan at bay: the credit side

Arthur Schlesinger

Washington

On the one hand, Americans want to find out what really happened. On the other, we are told that, if we look too hard and push too far, we will cripple the presidency, paralyse our government, dismay our allies and engage in pointless self-immolation before a bewildered world. It would be no surprise one of these days to read about a revival of the old Committee to Defend the Presidency formed in the Watergate era by agitated lawyers claiming that their interest lay in the preservation not of Richard M. Nixon but of the presidential office itself.

But let us first define the issue and assess the consequences. There are many differences between Watergate and the Iran-Nicaragua fiasco (Iraq? Iran? Iran?). Watergate was domestic politics; this is foreign policy. The Watergate mob was out to destroy political opposition; the current crowd is out to save the world. But, whatever the differences, the motives, the two scandals raise the same fundamental question: whether the President of the United States is above the constitution and the law.

I remember the historian Hugh Trevor-Roper once explaining Watergate to a British audience by comparing it with the revolt against royal prerogative in 17th century England. When Hampden refused to pay ship-money in 1636, the real issue was not ship-money but the crown's claim to absolute power. Foreigners wondered then why the English made such a fuss about ship-money when an unhampered English government might have exerted much influence in Europe. "But the English," Trevor-Roper wrote, "thought first of their own liberties, and who shall say that they were wrong?"

The issue today is only secondarily Iran and the Contras. The underlying issue is whether presidential prerogative should supersede the Constitution and the law. The next question is whether Americans, in thinking first of their own liberties are really doing such serious damage to their own institutions and to the republic's position in a dangerous world.

The presidency is plainly in trouble today. Not because of what Congress and the press have done to the executive, but because of what the President and his men have done to themselves. Even so, some pundits say, it will be hard to conduct foreign policy in the months ahead if Congress and the press persist in challenging the administration's version; and since this is the only government we have, its incapacity will harm us all.

But the international doubts about Reagan's credibility are not due to congressional and newspaper exposés, but to the administration's bad habit of solemnly declaring one line towards Iraq, Libya and terrorism and pursuing the opposite line under the table. Nor would the

administration's incapacity in foreign affairs be remedied if Congress and the press released tomorrow into statesmanlike and respectful silence.

When an administration's foreign policy is incoherent, duplicitous, incompetent and dedicated to rash and mindless policies, what is so awful about a crippled presidency? Surely a crippled presidency is far better for the nation and for the world than an unchastened and unrepentant one.

No president deserves any more trust than he has earned. Reagan, with his record of international recklessness and irresponsibility, deserves to be kept strictly on the leash for the rest of his time in office. Let us hear no more about the horrors of a crippled presidency.

Still, some insist that crippling Reagan will do permanent damage to the office. That was the pious line of the Committee to Defend the Presidency a dozen years ago. I remember Professor Charles I. Black Jr. of the Yale Law School, arguing in Watergate days that if Nixon turned White House tapes over to Congress, it would mean a betrayal of his "successors for all time to come." The tapes were turned over, and the presidency survived. The presidency even flourished for a season under Reagan, until he, like Nixon, overreached himself, thus provoking the appropriate constitutional reaction.

Let us not worry about the presidency. The office is indestructible if for no other reason than that our system cannot work without presidential initiative. Presidents need our protection less than the rest of us need protection from presidents. The electorate is obliged to demand executive accountability.

The US constitution has never pretended to guarantee against presidential incompetence, folly, or criminality. As the Supreme Court put it in a celebrated decision, the republic has "no right to expect that it will always have wise and humane rulers, sincerely attached to the principles of the constitution. Wicked men, ambitious of power, with hatred of liberty and contempt of law, may fill the place once occupied by Washington and Lincoln."

The constitution cannot guarantee against that. But it can guarantee accountability. Through the principle of the separation of powers, it can guarantee that when a president abuses power corrective forces exist to redress the constitutional balance. As Senator Sam Ervin put it in Watergate days, "One of the great advantages of the three separate branches of government is that it's difficult to corrupt all three at the same time."

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The author, an historian, was special assistant to President John F. Kennedy. This article, which is also appearing in *The New York Times*, concludes the series on the aftermath of the clandestine arms sales to Iran.

Henry Stanhope

Pussyfooting in C sharp

There were silver tabbies, red tabbies, brown tabbies, white tabbies, blue persians, birman, chinchillas and a Devon and Cornish rex at the National Cat Club Show in London. But they didn't have a cat that played the piano.

My aunt had one. His name was Smuts, which denoted his colouring rather than any admiration for South Africa's soldier-statesman. He did not play the piano very well, but, as Dr Johnson might have said, the wonder was that he played it at all.

My aunt lived in a house which looked south, across a meadow stretching towards the River Severn at Shrewsbury. High the vane of Shrewsbury gleamed on the horizon and the bells of St Mary's, St Julian's, St Alkmund's and St Chad's pealed over the fields on Sundays, like music scored in Heaven.

None of this meant very much to Smuts, who, as far as I know, had never heard of Housman, let alone read him. He understood enough about meteorology, however, to know that if he stretched out on the sitting room carpet beneath the big bay window he stood a better chance of getting a tan than he did anywhere else in the house. It was there he liked to spend his afternoons, floating in a pool of sunlight, purring in his dreams and gently hiccupping after a good lunch.

The risk he ran was that some passing member of the household, on seeing the sitting room door ajar, would promptly shut it. When Smuts had wearied of his sybaritic lifestyle and decided it was time to do some work — like bird-watching in the runner beans or discovering what had happened to his tea — he therefore found his exit firmly blocked. Moreover, as the kitchen was at the back of the house, down a long hall, there was usually no one in earshot to hear his disgruntled miaowing.

One day, acting, probably, more out of frustration than according to any preconceived plan, he leaped on to the piano and ran in exasperation up and down the keyboard. The result sounded like Stockhausen on a good day.

Now the sound of someone

playing the piano, however badly, in an otherwise empty house, is enough to cause instant alarm. Arming himself with a poker and accompanied by other members of the family, my aunt grimly advanced upon the sitting room — like the Thurber household on those nights when the ghost got in or the bed fell on father in Columbus, Ohio. In some fear and trepidation they flung open the door, upon which Smuts sprang down from his rostrum and, tail high in the air like a token of complaint, stalked sulkily out of the room.

I still have serious doubts over the depth of Smuts's musical appreciation or the keenness of his musical ear. He was, however, no fool and quickly appreciated that not only was the piano the key to his occasional predicament but that his musical extravaganza could be relied upon to win him instant appreciation. This Pussini of the pianoforte, this Chavkovsky of the keyboard began to perform not only as a means of communication but out of a clear desire to entertain. While his proud owner and friends stood by and applauded, he stithered over the ivories on velvet paws, purring in satisfaction to earn himself timed society salmon for tea.

Most cats in our family were killed by the Great Western Railway, trying to play chicken with a Manor-class on some winter's night along the Welsh border. Smuts managed to die of old age, which might or might not have been another sign of his resourcefulness in a perilous, hostile world. He was succeeded by a cat called Peter who had been born in a rectory and craved a kind of muscular Christianity — preferring country pursuits like stalking rabbits. He in turn gave way to a black and white hermaphrodite named Roy who surprised everyone one day by having kittens.

Neither of them, nor any cat since, ever learned to play the piano. But sometimes when the wind is blowing from the Stiperstones and the Shropshire plain is slumbering in the sun, I fancy I can hear Smuts playing on — another little sound on earth from Heaven.

Ian Murray



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

ARABIAN BOUNTY

The rise in the oil price on New Year's Eve to a level where it is once more just over \$18 a barrel was a fortunate piece of timing. It means that 1987 begins with spot oil prices neatly in place for the planned return of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to a policy of fixed prices from February 1. Ministers will note that it may have the incidental effect of improving the economic prospects for the Government in election year.

Oil prices have now risen during the past few weeks from a little under \$15 to slightly over \$18, the Saudi target level. The Saudi strategy of scaring its fellow oil exporting countries by allowing production to rise uncontrolled and thus prices to collapse finally seems to have worked — though not quickly enough to save Shaik Yamani. Just before Christmas, Opec agreed new output quotas for the first half of 1987 and that led directly to higher price levels.

How long the new price levels can be maintained remains to be seen. History suggests that even in their new mood some oil exporters are bound eventually to cheat around the edges of the agreement by selling more than their quotas. The seasonal falling off of demand during the summer months will test the agreement further, while any attempt by Iran to push oil prices further back to their previous levels of \$25-30 could well generate strong new tensions in Opec.

Nevertheless, the present identity of interest between the two leading producers in the cartel, Iran and Saudi Arabia, is a strong basis for the agreement's survival, and most observers think that prices will not fall significantly below \$18 again for the next few months. They might, indeed, rise higher.

This rise in the oil price is, of course, nothing like so dramatic as the fall which took place this time last year. But it still affects the economic outlook significantly. In the long term, a rise in oil prices must be disadvantageous to industrialised countries since it represents a transfer of wealth from oil consumers to oil producers, and there is something faintly ironic about financial centres of the Western world greeting it with relief. It is also likely to have a deflationary impact on the world economy and especially upon Third World oil importers.

But the short term consequences are more complicated. On the downside, the further that oil prices recover towards their previous levels, the less money is left in the pockets of the importing countries and the further the prospect of their spending it diminishes. Thus, according to Oxford Economic Forecasting in a new assessment published yesterday, the rise in oil prices to \$18 could reduce economic growth in the US during 1987 by 0.1 per cent and in Britain by about 0.2 per cent.

A recovery in oil prices will also improve the balance of payments outlook for Britain which has lately caused some nervousness. Published forecasts are at present unanimous that Britain's current account will be in deficit this year, forecasts of the deficit varying from the Treasury's £1.5 billion to £5.6 billion from the National Institute for Economic and Social Research. As a rule of thumb, the deficit should contract by £500 million for every one dollar rise in the oil price. So if an \$18 price were maintained, the outlook at the optimistic end of the scale could promise something close to balance.

This more attractive prospect — coupled with the

Government's recent strength in the opinion polls — has begun to be reflected in the exchange rate during the dying days of 1986. Sterling has managed to detach itself from the woes of the dollar and has modestly strengthened.

Fear of another January sterling crisis has receded (though few people are yet talking in terms of lower interest rates). For Britain, moreover, a firmer currency should go far to offset the inflationary impact of the recovery in oil prices — just as last year's fall in the pound partly offset the benefit.

This must be welcome news to the Chancellor in the short term. Higher North Sea revenues would give him considerably greater scope for cutting taxes in a pre-election Budget. The fiscal outlook is already more satisfactory than it seemed at the time of the Chancellor's Autumn Statement when public spending plans were substantially increased.

Government borrowing in the first eight months of the current financial year totalled £5.7 billion against a full-year forecast of £7 billion with the prospect of heavy tax inflows and receipts from the sale of British Gas and British Airways in the months remaining. Other things being equal, this fiscal buoyancy should carry through to next year.

An increase of three dollars in the oil price could add a further £1.5 billion to this already buoyant stream of revenue — enough, for instance, to take a penny off the basic rate of income tax. Although much can change before the Budget, this could be a year in which both Mrs Thatcher and the British taxpayer have at least temporary cause to bow in the direction of Mecca.

TO BE A PILGRIM

Armies of young persons with haversacks are no new sight on the streets of London, though their appearance in the wet and gloom of the week after Christmas must have made some passers-by wonder if the tourist season was not starting a little early this year. More than 20,000 of them have arrived in the capital to see out 1986 and see in 1987, drawn not by the annual youthful jollifications in Trafalgar Square but by something evidently more magnetic to them: the spiritual symbol known as the Taizé Community — a community of ecumenical monks who take their name from the village in France which is their permanent home. The community has uprooted and planted itself in London for the week and Taizé, the year round, attracts young people so they are attracted to London.

It is uncommonly rare, and a nice compliment, for the city to be an object of spiritual pilgrimage. The capital of many things it may be, but it is hardly part of London's personality to pride itself on being a centre of religious inspiration. It is too old and cynical a place. But it has opened its great cathedrals for daily mass meetings of prayer and reflection; and Britain's

two most prominent churchmen, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Robert Runcie, and the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, have addressed them, the former at the end of the old year, the latter at the start of the new.

These two figures represent organized and to some extent even entrenched religion, whereas the Taizé phenomenon stands for the search for something more fluid, something freed of the divisive wounds of the past, and something both more informal and more profound than the common fare of the average religious diet. The idea of Taizé appeals to a generation in search of deeper roots than can be nourished in the thin soil of the Swinging Sixties; but it appeals also to those who sense that Europe has not yet done with Christianity, and new spiritual ore can still be mined from old workings.

Why the Taizé ecumenical community of monks has emerged from the obscurity which it must surely have seemed destined for, is an interesting question. It may well be that the mingling of loyalties and traditions, such as occurs at a deep level between people from different denominations who share a

common life, brings forth more fruitful results than a mere improvement in official relations between the churches. This "personal" ecumenism seems to lead not to lowest common denominator religion in outward form, but to a greater and deeper grasp both of their common fundamentals and their divergent interpretations.

Thus in Taizé, Protestant monks may assist their Catholic brethren to understand Catholicism better; and vice versa; and both to understand Christianity better, thus deepening their spiritual lives. What is outstanding about Taizé is that this message has spread all over Europe without any attempt by anyone to promote it or to evangelise in Taizé's name. There is no Taizé mass movement, and those who ask "How do I join?" get no answer except an invitation to be one of the monks of Taizé itself.

There is a lesson for organized Christianity here: that the advancement of ecumenical relations can enrich the spiritual lives of the participants, and that there is an unsatisfied hunger for spiritual sustenance among the young which the ancient churches, for all their historical luggage, can still hope to feed.

THE LONGEST DAY

As the first light of 1987 gilded the roofs of such historic London buildings as the NatWest Tower and Selfridges, the vigour and determination of this country as it stood on the threshold of another year were self-evident in our factories and office blocks. Britain was still enjoying Christmas.

Christmas is something which the nation as a whole is very good at — and at which it is getting even better. What Americans regard as a one-day holiday and most of our European partners as a religious festival has long been expanded here into a two-day feast. Anything that comes but once a year is worth making the most of when it does.

The Christmas Day-Boxing Day routine, however, left people with the inconvenience of having to return to work for two or three days before the weekend, jolting the system and jarring the nerves. Many if not most firms, coming to terms with flagrant absenteeism by a workforce which was showing signs of strain, extended the festive season to a week.

This worked moderately

well until the Government, bowing to public pressure from those who regarded New Year's Day as a morning after the night before, made that a holiday too. This re-introduced the same difficulty for families by making them go back to work after Christmas, clock off again for the New Year, then do a couple more days before the weekend. That is why Britain, to the admiration of its competitors like West Germany and Japan, now often pulls down the blinds for two whole weeks at Yuletide. Indeed there are grounds for supposing that it would do so until February 1 and have done with it, if it did not have to face up to the stern task of planning its Summer holidays.

Overseas customers who are nonplussed by the silence (broken only by the occasional sound of Answerphones) might have a better understanding if they read the latest official handbook from the COI. This would explain to those trying to gauge the pace of Britain in 1987 that they are dealing with a country whose favourite national sport today is walking. And since the next most popular games (at least

for men) are snooker and darts, they presumably do not like walking very far. A brisk stroll to the public bar of the Coach and Horses or several laps round a full-size billiard table would seem to fulfil the Olympic ambitions of the bulldog breed.

And this is when the television has broken down. Britain 1987 confirms what has long been apparent — that the favourite national pastime in this country today is watching it. Not only do 98 per cent of British households have one set, but 35 per cent have two, and 30 per cent a video recorder as well — presumably to ensure that nothing important, like 150 Years of the Two Ronnies, may be missed.

For anyone seeking a more fundamental reason for the twelve days of Christmas as experienced uniquely in this country, the answer may lie with this insatiable appetite for television. Few men can be expected to cope with four television channels, cable TV and old Bond films on the video — and get back to work before Epiphany. But whether the COI should be admitting all this is quite another matter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Aids, morals and Church attitudes

From the Reverend David Dale
Sir, The motto of this school, of which I have the honour to be chaplain, is *Exemplum docet*, not *Verbum docet*. It is a motto that politicians would be wise to recall when they ask the Church to "speak out" on questions of sexual morality. Does any sane person not know the mainstream teaching of the churches on sexual morality or suppose that those who ignore that teaching will reform their lives because the Archbishop or the Pope says it all once again?

It takes patient teaching, good example and a lot of love to change sexual moral attitudes and Christian laity and clergy are busy at it the whole time. The Church did not invent the pill or advocate its prescription to girls under 16 without their parents' permission, nor do we publish and broadcast pornography or sell drink and drugs to children or teach them how to take the waiting out of wanting. We help to clear up the mess afterwards.

It would greatly help our task of teaching if the leaders of the branches of our national life taught sexual responsibility by their example. It is not good enough to ask the Church to teach something which is being denied by examples of easily and lightly undertaken divorce and remarriage, adultery, promiscuity and homosexual and other damaging activity in those who are the leaders of our national life.

Moral education costs nothing and achieves nothing. Teaching by example is costly and works.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID DALE,
Shiplake College,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.
December 22.

From the Very Reverend Monsignor George R. Leonard
Sir, Clifford Longley (December 23) has failed to do justice to the Catholic response to Aids and the current campaign of public education on the disease.

The Catholic Church in this country has publicly and repeatedly made its position clear. Cardinal Hume, in a broadcast (December 13), described the epidemic as like "a moral Chernobyl" which requires society to re-examine fundamentally its attitudes to sexuality and moral standards. The Catholic Church has been consistent in its opposition to permissiveness over the years. The public in general recognises this. There is little need for us to dust off "old sermons on chastity".

It would be wrong to suppose that the Catholic bishops tacitly accept the current Government campaign. It is now clear that official advertising will virtually ignore the manifestly moral issues

personal taxation
From Mr David G. Lindsay
Sir, Extraordinary heavy weather has been made of the Green Paper on personal taxation.

If a person married or single, has an income, earned or invested, of his/her own (including a share of a joint income), he/she should be individually taxed on it and be able to set his/her personal allowance against it.

However, where a single income has to support both husband and wife, it seems only fair and reasonable that the personal allowances of each be set against it. Likewise with any supported child of the marriage, whose parents should have no less entitlement to the utilisation of their children's personal allowances than the entitlement unmarried or divorced parents are able to obtain in relation to theirs.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID LINDSAY,
36 Orchard Coombe,
Whitchurch Hill,
Reading, Berkshire.
December 15.

From Ms Mary-Heather Styles
Sir, Amongst the comments made on the proposed changes in per-

Electricity hazard

From Dr M. J. Carson
Sir, In drawing attention to the dangers that could arise from loose electrical connections in plugs (see last December 15) makes the mistake of linking this to the alternating electricity supply.

The main cause of loose connections is likely to be the inadequate tightening of the screws on first installation. The incident, however, reinforces the case for electrical appliances to be fitted with moulded-on plugs.

I fully support Mr Last's prompt action in checking all his plugs.
Yours faithfully,
M. J. CARSON, Manager,
Sussex Coast Division, Seaboard,
329 Portland Road,
Hove, East Sussex.

Chariots of fire

From Mr P. Macpherson
Sir, I much enjoyed reading, on Christmas Eve, the excellent article by Roger Boyes, entitled "The brothers of Niepokalanow". However, I have to report that it contained an inaccuracy which cannot be allowed to pass. I refer to the statement in the second paragraph regarding "the shining red fire-engine that carries into action the only monastic fire service in Christendom".

Sir, the Cistercian monks of Caldey Abbey, located off Tenby on the coast of Dyfed, took possession and delivery of a gleaming (second-hand) fire-engine last May. It was delivered, as are all goods and passengers proceeding to the island by the monastic boat and unloaded on arrival by the mobile crane owned and operated by the monks.

involved in the spread of the disease.

The current emphasis on condoms is, again according to the Cardinal in the same broadcast, "a counsel of despair". Even in the short term condoms may well reduce, but will not eliminate the danger of infection.

The general public, including those most at risk, is likely to interpret the campaign as "more of the same but safely". Many will share our profound reservations on the wisdom of this approach.

The Catholic bishops' position is that "the sexual expression of love is reserved to marriage. Programmes of public education or information must be based on this fundamental principle".

The Church understands the Government's dilemma, but it must be recognised that private behaviour can constitute a threat to the common good. Here the Government has a moral responsibility to take this much more fully into account. And, as the Cardinal suggested in the same broadcast, the country has responded in times of past danger to the need for high ideals, often at the cost of self-sacrifice. Why not now?

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE R. LEONARD,
Westminster House,
Westminster, SW1.
December 23.

From Ms Audrey Wells
Sir, In your editorial of December 16 you argue that the Government's campaign against Aids would achieve "more good — and do less harm — if it is promoted in a context of moral restraint". However, you refer, perhaps a little pessimistically, to the problems of "remoralizing society". It is perhaps worth pointing out that at least one society has done precisely this.

China has achieved, since 1949, a high standard of sexual morality through an education campaign in schools, the mass media and literature which emphasizes the values of purity and fidelity. As a result, despite a population of one billion people and a relative lack of wealth, she has achieved possibly the highest standards of sexual ethics in the world.

China has been able to accomplish this because she has inherited from her Confucian history a tradition of ethical teaching independent of religious belief or philosophical speculation. Her values have changed but the tradition of ethical education remains.

Yours faithfully,
AUDREY WELLS,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
Department of Language Studies,
Houghton Street, WC2.
December 17.

sonal taxation, I have seen no reference to an administrative consequence of the Chancellor's proposal of transferable allowances.

It is not unknown for wives who do not work in a formal or regular sense to receive payment for such activities as child-minding, babysitting and helping in the businesses of their friends. If such payments are not declared to the Inland Revenue under the present system, no tax is lost, since the amounts involved are unlikely to be higher than the amount of a wife's earned income allowance.

However, if the proposed changes are adopted, any non-working wife who transfers her personal allowance to her husband will be due to pay tax on every pound of income she receives.

The resulting demands on the record-keeping required by the recipient of small amounts of money are surely unreasonable.

Yours faithfully,
MARY-HEATHER STYLES,
127 Mulgrave Road,
Charm, Surrey.
December 16.

Saying it in style

From Dr R. T. Donald
Sir, The Rev Canon Kerr-Dineen (December 16) was worried about the form of address in modern-day letters.

Only today I was writing my firm of accountants, formally addressing them as "Dear Sirs", when I realized that they now have a woman partner. Should I have addressed them as "Dear Sirs and Madam" or "Dear Accountants"?

Surely some of your readers have been in a similar predicament and can advise me.
Yours faithfully,
R. T. DONALD,
Crannach,
Dinnet,
Aboyne, Aberdeenshire.
December 16.

I myself saw the fire-engine in action, handling a flood, when I was last on the island in September.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
PETER MACPHERSON,
275 Gower Road at Parkway,
Sketty,
Swansea, West Glamorgan.

Decently veiled
From Mr M. J. Mella
Sir, Professor Dominica Legge (Obituaries, December 19) scorned the idea of pornography having footnotes. Did she know, I wonder, that all the pornography in Gibbon's *Decline and Fall* is in footnotes. In the decent obscurity of Latin and Greek?

Yours sincerely,
M. J. MELLA,
64 Ravensdowne,
Berwick-upon-Tweed,
Northumberland.

Book funding in universities

From Professor A. J. Woodman
Sir, The Secretary of State for Education recently announced some extra funding for universities (report, November 7), of which a small percentage (£3million) is intended to assist library purchasing. This level of assistance needs to be seen in a wider context.

The purchasing power of all academic libraries has suffered a dramatic decline since 1980-81. Although figures are not yet available for the past two years or so, all the evidence suggests that things have steadily worsened since 1983-84.

One of the major reasons for this decline is the level of inflation, which is much higher for books and periodicals than for anything else which universities purchase. The University Grants Committee earlier this year announced measures which are having a profound effect on university finances; and in circumstances where sudden reductions are required, spending on books, being an easy target, almost inevitably suffers.

The University of Durham imposed in June a reduction of 50 per cent in its annual allocation to departments for book purchases. My own department had already spent half of its allocation by that time, and we have recently been informed that no further books can be ordered until at least May 1987. We have also been told that we must plan for reductions of up to 50 per cent in the acquisition of periodicals and bibliographies.

It seems to me that our inability to buy even a single book constitutes a denial of everything which a university is supposed to stand for. It is greatly to be hoped that when the UGC distributes Mr Kenneth Baker's extra funds, it makes clear that the £3million goes towards library acquisitions, as Mr Baker intends, and does not get swallowed up in other things. Yet even if this stipulation is made, the extra money, when filtered down to universities and departments of greatly varying sizes, will certainly do nothing to improve their future position.

Yours etc,
A. J. WOODMAN,
University of Durham,
Department of Classics,
38 North Bailey,
Durham.
December 23.

Brake on progress

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist
Sir, Who was the first Luddite? I don't think the parabolic custodian of the one talent can be held to qualify; he was too passive.

The Emperor Vespasian rejected a brilliant mechanical invention because he was afraid it would create unemployment; but he did not smash the machine after it had been put into operation. In fact he gave the inventor a bribe to keep his mouth shut and his blueprints to himself. So Vespasian was only a theoretical, or fellow-travelling, Luddite.

My candidate for the earliest practising Luddite would be a ploughman employed by a certain gentleman farmer called Walter de Henley in about 1400. When Walter replaced his old-fashioned draught oxen by horses (because the horses could go nearly twice as fast), he was heard to complain bitterly that his ploughman, out of "malice", would drive the horses no faster than the oxen used to go.

The ploughman's conduct, though lacking the later element of violence, was well calculated to produce a true Luddite effect.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GILCHRIST,
Arthur's Crag,
Hazelbank,
by Lanark.
December 17.

All the difference

From Sir Anthony Wagner
Sir, Philip Howard, in his article entitled "Preposidioms" (December 17) gives a clear and interesting exposition of the personal (idiomatic) background to many of our views on grammar and correct speech. He leaves out, however, what seems to me the important fact that when such a phrase as "different than" makes my hackles rise, I am expressing not only a personal feeling but a conviction that the speaker belongs to a different educational tribe from myself and that I must therefore be cautious about his attitudes in general.

Such words and phrases are in fact shibboleths and thus have greater social and historical importance than Mr Howard seems to allow. Yours truly,
ANTHONY WAGNER
(Clarenceux King of Arms,
College of Arms,
Queen Victoria Street, EC4.
December 18.

Penny wise
From Wing Commander R. D. I. Scott
Sir, Your article (December 29) suggests to me that your readers who suffer worn-out pockets should resort to a Highland craft shop at Achnasheen.

In 1972, whilst sheltering from a heavy storm, I bought a purse for 40p. As a result I have not suffered any worn-out pockets in any of my suits or trousers since the purchase of that most desirable object.

Yours sincerely,
R. D. I. SCOTT,
The Friars House,
2 Barton Road,
Hereford.
December 29.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 2 1934

Bernard Shaw wrote many letters to The Times. His last, a few weeks before his death in 1950, was on British communism. Other subjects he touched on were polygamy in India, flogging in Egypt, motherhood, superstition, emigration and electric light in Marylebone. It was rare that he wrote, as in this instance, representing an organisation; but the comment in a leading article after his death was as true in this case as in all the others: "It is hard to think of any other contributor who over so many years wrote more wisely, more widely, or in such indefatigably high spirits."

BBC PRONUNCIATION

MR BERNARD SHAW EXPLAINS

THE COMMITTEE'S CANONS

To The Editor of The Times
Sir, As chairman of the committee which in the discharge of its faithful responsibility for advising the BBC on the subject of spoken English has incurred your censure as it has incurred everyone else's, may I mention a few circumstances which will help towards the formation of a reasonable judgement of our proceedings?

1. All the members of the committee speak presentably; that is, they are all eligible, as far as their speech is concerned, for the judicial bench, the cathedral pulpit, or the throne.

2. No two of them pronounce the same word in the English language alike.

3. They are quite frequently obliged to decide unanimously in favour of a pronunciation which they would rather die than use themselves in their private lives.

4. As they work with all the leading dictionaries before them they are free from the illusion that these works are either unanimous or up-to-date in a world of rapidly changing usage.

5. They are sufficiently familiar with the works of Chaucer to feel sincerely sorry that the lovely quadrasyllable *Christemasse*, the trisyllable *neighbour*, and the disyllable *friendless* should have decayed into *krismas*, *neaybr*, and *frens*. We should like to vary the hackneyed set of rhymes to *forever by the Shakespearean perceiver*; and we would all, if we dared, say *across* who, as *Cleopatra*, would dare degrade a noble line by calling her country's high pyramids *pyramids*. But if we recommended these pronunciations to the announcers they would, in the unusual event of their paying any attention to our notions, gravely mislead the millions of listeners who take them as models of current speech usage.

6. We are not a cockney committee. We are quite aware that Coudut Street is known in the West End as Coudit Street. Elsewhere such a pronunciation is as unintelligible as it is incorrect. We have to dictate a pronunciation that cannot be mistaken, and abide the resultant cockney rally as best we can.

7. Wireless and the telephone have created a necessity for a fully and clearly articulated spoken English quite different from the *luxy vernacular* that is called *mod'nghlish*. We have to get rid not only of imperfect pronunciations but of ambiguous ones. Ambiguity is largely caused by our English habit of attacking the first syllable and sacrificing the second, with the result that many words beginning with prefixes such as *ex* or *dis* sound too much alike. This usage claims to be correct; but common sense and euphony are often against it, and it is questionable whether in such cases it is general enough to be accepted as authentic usage. Superior persons stress the first syllable in *disputable*, *laboratory*, *exemplary*, *despicable*, &c.; and we, being superior persons, talk like that; but as many ordinary and quite respectable people say *disputable*, *laboratory*, *exemplary*, and *despicable*, we are by no means bound to come down on the side of the pretentious pronunciation if the popular alternative is less likely to be confused with other words by the new human species called *listeners-in*.

We have to consider sonority also. The short *i* is much less effective than the long one; and the disturbance I created in the United States last April by broadcasting *privacy* instead of *privity* was justified. *Isolate* is a highly superior pronunciation and not only a personal feeling but a conviction that the speaker belongs to a different educational tribe from myself and that I must therefore be cautious about his attitudes in general.

Some common pronunciations have to be rejected as unbearably ugly. An announcer who pronounced *decadent* and *sonorous* as *dekadent* and *sonerous* would provoke Providence to strike him dumb.

The worst obstacle to our popularity as a committee is the general English conviction that to correct a man's pronunciation is to imply that he is no gentleman. Let me explain therefore that we do not correct anyone's pronunciation unless it is positively criminal. When we recommend an announcer to pronounce *disputable* with the stress on the second syllable we are neither inciting him to an ungentlemanly action nor insinuating that those who put the stress on the first ought to be ashamed of themselves. We are simply expressing our decision that for the purposes and under the circumstances of the new art of broadcasting the second syllable stress is the more effective.

Yours truly,
G. BERNARD SHAW,
Chairman.
December 31.

Arson investigation as 41 die in hotel tragedy

[illegible]

Top story
Paris on 19th
Suez

PART 2

Everyday fury of country folk

In this green and pleasant land, it is often old-established villagers who are keenest on new development while



wealthy newcomers are the fiercest defenders of the tranquil status quo. Barbara Toner finds an archetypal case

Just beyond Silicon Valley, in Wiltshire countryside famed for its beauty and some historic stones, is the tiny hamlet of Lockeridge. There, snooty, self-interest and middle class reserve hang heavy in the pure country air, thickening a plot familiar to many villages within striking distance of London.

"The question," muses Lord Kennet from his gloriously appointed London home opposite Hyde Park, "is not whether you build but what you build and where."

Lord Kennet is a weekend, though he does not care much for the description. His Lockeridge house, The Locket, built in 1701, was purchased by his father in 1905, who rented it to Lytton Strachey during the First World War and to Lawrence of Arabia's mother during the Second. She left behind a pile of empty corset boxes in the attic.

Whether you will build is rarely considered, because planners have ruled that in Lockeridge there can only be in-filling and there is not much opportunity for that. However there is the paddock attached to Piper's Plot, a fine country residence converted from a two-up-two-down in the 1920s by A.N. Whitehead, who co-wrote (with Bertrand Russell) *Principia Mathematica* there, and among whose guests was Gertrude Stein.

At the moment, the paddock houses nothing more distressing than a couple of donkeys, but its owners, Bruce and Janet Chivers, want to sell some of it, subject of course to planning permission. Permission is sought for a four-bedroomed executive house of "unusual design" with a thatched roof. Ripples of dismay have been carried on the breezes along the village's leafy lanes to Marlborough, to the Kennet District Council's offices.

Letters of protest have been sent and a petition has been drawn up.

No one has liked to confront the Chivers directly. No one wants unpleasantness, even if the passions are roused. The modern villager, drawn to his Garden of Eden by a vision of paradise when the plough reigned supreme, is fierce in resisting further change, especially when that change reeks of suburbia.

Like most sleepy hollows, Lockeridge, 15 miles south of Swindon, is becoming a dormitory for industrial centres and it already has its share of large executive houses of "unusual design". They are above the Chivers' paddock on land that was sold years ago, and across the road on land once owned by the farmer, Gillie Swanton.

"They were undesirable," says Lord Kennet. "They don't look nice." He believes that whereas "in-filling" in the middle of the village can do little harm, building on the fringes of the conservation area carries the subtler danger of extending the boundaries of development as far as the Dene, whose stones are said to have been used at Stonehenge.

If Lord Kennet declaims in the measured tones of an SDP spokesman on foreign affairs in the Lords, other tones are less mea-



Hamlet guard: Noel Down, the recluse who refused to sell, says others should adopt the same policy

sured. Mrs Noel Down, the village recluse, a pipe-smoker of fragile beauty, says: "We don't want any more perfectly hideous houses. They are a blot on the village."

She is especially passionate about Piper's Plot because she and her husband owned it until 1971. "When we were there, people begged us to sell bits off but we never did because we loved the village and we loved country life."

She now lives in a large house on the other side of the village with her son Simon, three goats, a very sporting Irish cob, five bantams and two dogs. Her husband died in 1974. "I am a recluse," she says, "because I can't stand gossip."

Gossip, however, is hard to resist with an issue as sensitive as the proposed new house. What muddies it, ever so slightly, is concern for Mr Chivers's recent financial difficulties. The building firm started by his grandfather collapsed last year after a disagreement with the bank.

If he is selling the land to get himself out of trouble, then there is a train of thought which says he deserves some sympathy. It is not a very long one, however.

Mr Chivers may be a well-liked man - and everyone says they do like him - but his decision to sell his land is regarded by many as nothing short of a betrayal. "Why should he ruin our environment?" says Dave Farley, a senior lecturer in special education in Pewsey. "Why not ruin his own? If he's desperate for money, why isn't he building down his end of the paddock?"

The planned house is to be built 15 metres from the Farley's fence. "What is hard to appreciate from the plans," Farley says, "is the elevation. Because the land slopes, the house overlooks us completely."

The Farleys drew up the petition, protesting not only about

'We do not want more hideous houses, they are a blot on the village'

the threat to their privacy but the design, so out of keeping with the listed houses around it, the loss of the natural division between new Lockeridge on the hill and old at the bottom, and about the precedent it could set for more houses on disputed sites.

But worse than all of that for the Farleys would be the loss of their dream. When Dave and Margaret Farley left Sutton in Surrey 11 years ago, they were looking for a dream and they found it in Lockeridge and Sebastapol Cottages.

Dave Farley and his wife Margaret, a legal secretary in Marlborough, converted Sebastapol Cottages, once a shop and two houses, into a single knocked-through property with a thatched roof and considerable charm, worth £125,000. They love it.

They love country life. They have sent their three sons to the village primary school and on to the comprehensive in Marlborough and they've watched them thrive in the woods, the Dene and the village playing area. Dave has learnt more about nature than he ever imagined possible. They are not prepared to

abandon their idyll without a fight.

When they first discovered a new house was planned, they protested vehemently to the chairman of the parish council who happens to be a friend of Mr Chivers and the plan was withdrawn. Two months later a new plan was to be put before the council, at a meeting in a private house.

"We thought we would turn up at the meeting, mainly because we wanted to see fair play. Mr Chivers joined the parish council six months ago and we felt it was only fair that he should withdraw while the matter was being considered."

"Anyway, we turned up but we weren't let in. We were told it was a private meeting in a private house and we had no business there. It was very embarrassing," Margaret recalls.

The Farleys weren't alone in their embarrassment. The meeting was deferred and the parish council, now thoroughly aware of the hot potato, convened an open meeting in the village hall so that all-comers could consider the wisdom - or not - of recommending planning permission for Mr Chivers's paddock.

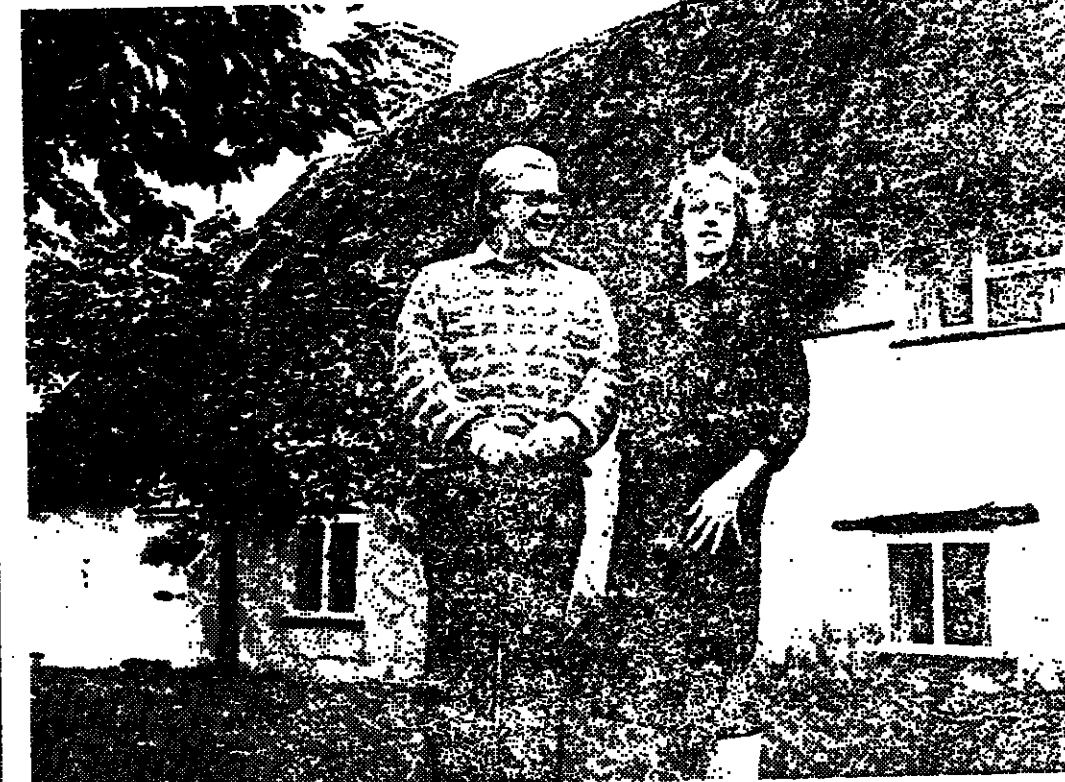
Twenty people, plus the council, unanimously decided against. Proposals for first-time buyers were needed but more executive housing most definitely was not.

"I'm a bit selfish," says Dave Farley. "I realize I haven't bought a view. But I can't help thinking if he builds on this bit of land, he'll build on the lot."

The prejudice against executive houses causes some mystification up on the hill where Les and Julie Spencer live in style in a house of unusual design with a swimming pool. Over the road is another



Homes from home: the Chivers, a well-liked couple who just want more than donkeys in the paddock



Homes affront: There will be no overlooking David and Margaret Farley, if they have anything to do with it

unusual house startling for its impressive plastic pillars.

Les, originally from Hornchurch in London's East End and Julie, from America, moved to Lockeridge 11 years ago when Les was working for Castrol in Swindon. They quickly made close friends. "Mainly with people who live up here," Les observes. "We find we get very well with the people who live up here. They are the same as us, Johnny-come-latelies."

There is some snobbery from other quarters. "Certain people you nod to because it is polite so to do," Les explains carefully. "But

you know you are not expected to open a conversation."

It doesn't bother them unduly. They are very happy in Lockeridge. It is a wonderful village. "But it's the future I'm concerned for," Julie confides. "If Chivers gets planning permission we could end up with a lot more houses along the bottom road and there would be an influx of population and traffic."

It would be easy to imagine no one did, judging by the meeting at the village hall. But it's not true. There are those who long to see the population grow. The clash of interests resounding about

Lockeridge can be heard all over England.

Given that Lockeridge is in an area of outstanding natural beauty, the villagers can be forgiven for fighting hard to preserve their best interests. But the intriguing question hovering about Lockeridge's historic stones, its tiny school, its thriving pub and its sadly depleted Chapel congregation is: what are they?

Farmer Gillie Swanton, a tweed hat crammed down over his glasses and a pipe in his mouth, surveys the landscape ruefully, silly when he owns most of it.

Continued on page 18

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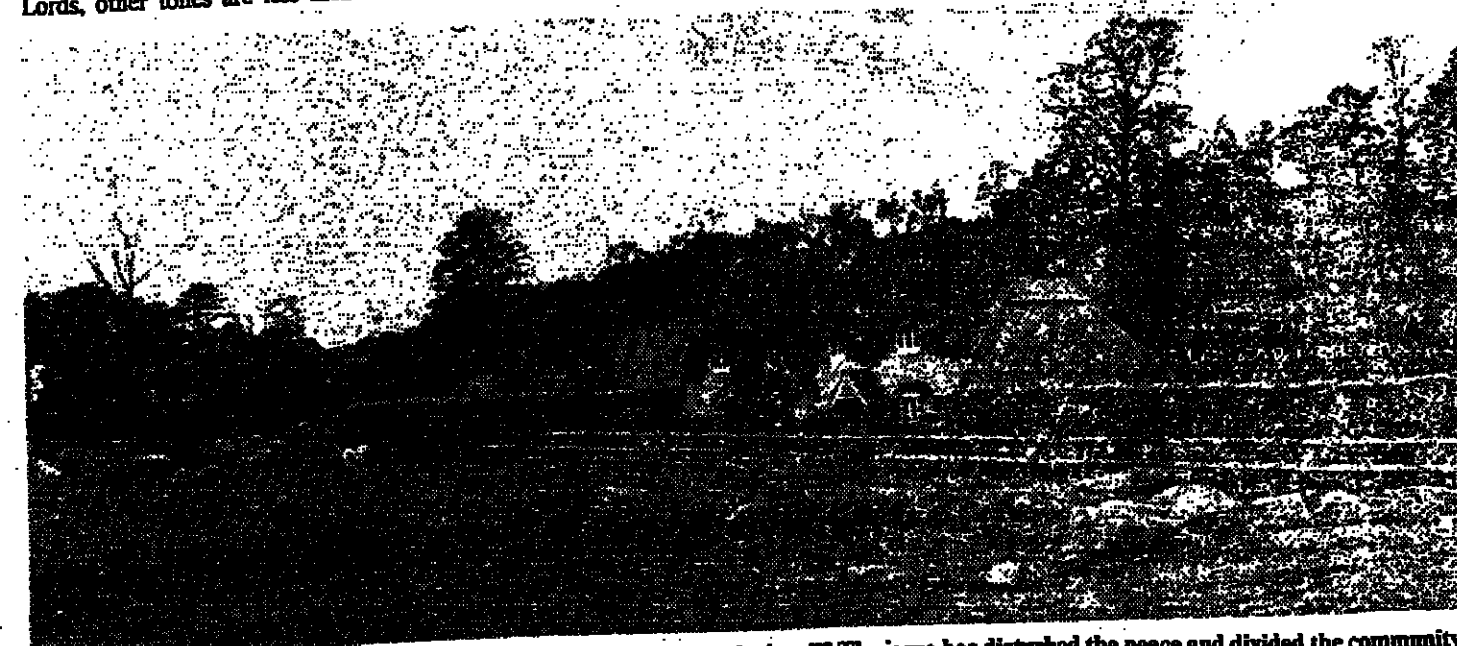
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Homes idyllic: should Lockeridge have to accommodate "unusual designs"? The issue has disturbed the peace and divided the community

Making crime pay up

This month, Britain will follow America's successful — and sometimes bizarre — lead by removing drug-traffickers' assets as well as their freedom. Stewart Tendler reports

Anyone interested in a bargain low-mileage second-hand Ferrari might try the US Marshal's department, which also has a nice line in apartments in San Juan, Puerto Rico — 16 luxury homes, to be exact. Tempted by the prospect of owning a Chicago reggae bar called the Wild Horse and Singing Frog Armadillo Sanctuary? The late 20th-century successors to Wyatt Earp are looking after that too.

They recently sold off a 775 acre Virginia estate for \$4.1 million. The marshals were overjoyed. They made a million more than they had expected to.

The estate, cars, homes and bar are all assets seized by American federal investigators deploying a ruthless range of updated legislation which is now being mirrored in Britain. Over the five years from 1980 to 1985 the value of asset-seizure in the United States rose from \$100 million to \$500 million. The Drug Enforcement Agency estimates it is seizing \$1 million a day. In its last fiscal year its budget was \$363 million, compared with seized assets of \$373 million.

This month similar powers allowing the freezing and confiscation of drug traffickers' assets will come into operation in Britain. The Government also plans to use its Criminal Justice Bill to extend the scope to other major criminal suspects.

The system to be used in this country is based largely on criminal law, but in the US both criminal and civil law have been combined so effectively that criminals have been financially slaughtered even after an acquittal.

According to Brad Cates, Director of Asset Forfeiture at the Department of Justice in Washington, there are about 100 American statutes — dating back, in some cases, to the last century — which allow for forfeiture. The principal ones govern drug offences: RICO (Racketeer-Influenced Criminal Organization), used against organized crime; CCE (Continuously Criminal Enterprise), often deployed against drug entrepreneurs; Customs offences; immigration breaches and currency violations.

The forfeiture powers for these areas have existed since the 1970s, but in 1984 the Comprehensive Crime Control Act increased the potential for using asset seizure and forfeiture as a major weapon. Cates, an ardent supporter of asset seizure believes the legislation is one of the most fun-

damental advances in decades. He says: "What is more important than what we net is the deterrent value and the destruction of the infra-structure — and economic power." The head of a drug ring can be removed but he might have five or six juniors who could step in. If the economic base of the ring is destroyed the organization is destroyed.

American Federal agencies like the DEA and the FBI can now use civil forfeiture to seize property, vehicles and cash on the basis of "probable cause". The asset, Cates says, can be held and the Federal agency then files a case in court. The case is against the asset — the US Government versus a Ferrari, for example. The probable cause is that the asset was involved in crime and at the point that an alleged crime took place the asset became the property of the government because the law had been broken.

The assets covered might be a car or aircraft used to transport drugs, a house used for dealing or a ranch with a landing strip. An owner can come forward and argue the asset is his but he must

Marshals have run a gold mine in Alaska

persuade a judge that the preponderance of the evidence — 51 per cent — proves his ownership and that he did not break the law.

The criminal who decides to challenge the seizure runs the risk of having to produce bank accounts and documents which could provide evidence against him in a criminal trial.

If a civil seizure has not been made the owner can keep the assets until the end of his trial, but the court can enforce a restraining order preventing him disposing of the assets. With judicial permission, the Federal agency can impound the assets once the man has been indicted if they have reason to believe the assets will disappear before the trial.

It is the jury which decides both the verdict and then which assets shall be kept. The decision is based on whether the assets were the profits of crime, used for transportation in the crime or facilitated the offence. In a recent case the US government acquired a chain of drug stores in the Midwest after the chemist who owned



Horse de combat: a \$65,000 thoroughbred bought with drug profits



Ill-gotten gain: a Michigan golf course, forfeited to the government

them was found to have sold heroin and other illicit drugs from the premises.

Even if the defendant is acquitted, the government can still keep the assets, having set the civil process in train at the same time as making arrests. Cates says that the judge would have to consider the evidence on the basis of probable cause, as opposed to the jury's concern to acquit or convict on the basis of evidence "beyond reasonable doubt".

Cates says the civil process is analogous to Customs legislation applied to, say, a cargo of rotten meat landed at a port. The meat would be impounded and the importers tried for an importation offence. Even if they were acquitted the government would keep the meat as it would be a threat to health.

But this "meat" is anything but rotten. So many assets have poured in that an extra 150 US marshals have been sworn in simply to administer properties, businesses and cash. Many of the 15 attorneys in Cates's office have business qualifications. Others among the 5,000 district attorneys in the American legal system are now attending intensive courses conducted by Cates and his staff.

Once an asset is being held, the federal authorities have to administer it so that it can be reclaimed by the defendant or sold profitably. The result is that in California the marshals have been running a highly successful recording studio in Sausalito called The Plant — now nicknamed Club Fed by locals.

Besides the reggae bar in Chicago, they have also looked after a gold mine in Alaska, a golf course in Michigan, a number of stud ranches and a bank.

In one Texan case involving a man worth \$70 million, the fed-



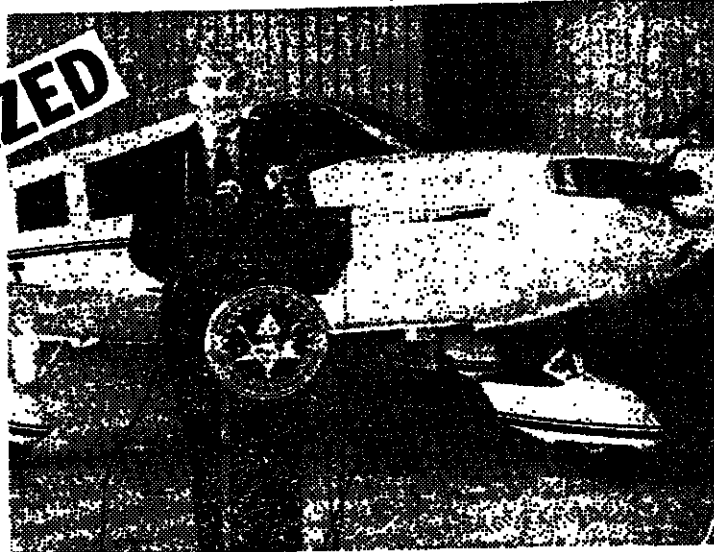
Directing the fightback: Brad Cates of the US Department of Justice

eral authorities had also prosecuted his wife and son. They were acquitted and for a time the federal agents had to run the family business with them until a successful split could be arranged. The government ended up with two Wild West clothing stores, a bank and a horse farm which were sold for a total of \$15 million.

In some instances businesses have started to collapse because they were being loaded on vast drug revenues and were not otherwise viable. During a drug case in Houston, Texas, \$6.8 million in cash was seized from a bank account. By the time the case was over the money had risen to \$7.2 million. According to Cates, federal agents make cash seizures



Dreadlocked and barred: a Chicago club, now run by US marshals



Spots of war: once a drug-smuggler's, now this plane belongs to Iowa

action over the guardianship of assets after a defendant is acquitted.

Nor will they have the same incentives which are beginning to appear in the US. In Britain the profits from seized assets will go to the Treasury, much to the private disgust of police and Customs officers. In the US the profits go back into policing or the justice system.

Federal agencies are rewarding local forces which have helped

Agents seized defence lawyers' fees

them. In California the Orange County sheriff's department received a 230-acre ranch. An Alabama department used rewards to build a new jail and New York City authorities received \$1 million which is being used on a drug prevention programme.

So far the Federal attorneys have lost few cases in either civil or criminal courts — and raised the wrath of defence lawyers. On occasion, agents have seized the fees paid to lawyers because they were profits of crime, leaving defendants reliant on a public defender system which is not highly rated. Nor, it has to be said, has it had much effect on the drug trade. The price of cocaine is still falling in Florida, which means that the smugglers and traffickers are still prepared to bring in the drug from South America.

But Brad Cates is convinced of the value of his programme, now being emulated at a lower level by individual states. He says: "The people like it, it is fair and it works. What more can you ask of law enforcement?"

Brothers, broke, banished

A year ago the Reckmeyer brothers were high-rolling multi-millionaires. Now they are broke and in jail. Their jewels, gold coins, cars and a 1,000 acre estate in Virginia have all been seized by the government. A financial empire has been dismantled.

Christopher and Robert Reckmeyer, both in their thirties, began selling marijuana in high school. By the time they were arrested in January 1985 they headed a huge drugs business. Neither had ever earned an honest penny.

The Reckmeyer estate in McLean has been sold for \$4.1 million under the government's forfeiture and confiscation programme. Its rich history boosted the price in a government-run auction: the original owner was George Washington's chaplain, Roger Ray, United States Marshal for the eastern district of Virginia, whose responsibilities include overseeing the forfeiture programme in his area, says proceeds from several auctions are being distributed to the Reckmeyer's creditors.

The former owner of the Virginia estate, who held a mortgage for the Reckmeyers, will get paid off soon. So will the Reckmeyers' father, a local doctor, who was owed money by his sons. Everybody with a claim against the Reckmeyers had to go before a local judge, who ruled on its validity. He accepted \$1.5 million in claims.

Christopher Reckmeyer owned the largest share of the assets. Under a plea-bargaining arrangement 16 months after his arrest, he agreed to forfeit all property and cash acquired from the drugs business — in other words, everything he owned. There were several boxes of gems, a large number of Oriental rugs, and some stocks and shares.

Roger Reckmeyer, too, agreed to forfeit his ill-gotten gains. He lost properties in Maryland, several boxes of jewels, and \$500,000 in cash that he kept stashed in his bedroom. Anything that is left after private creditors have been paid off will go to offset the state of Virginia's prosecution costs.

By consenting to the forfeiture, the brothers avoided a long court battle. Since they had no visible means of support other than the drugs business, there seemed little doubt that the courts in any case would have seized everything they owned.

The sale of the Reckmeyer estate in September completed the dismantling of the brothers' empire. Ray has so far received \$410,000 as a down payment for the property from the new owner. When the balance is paid, the outstanding creditors will get their money, with private creditors taking priority. The last of the Reckmeyer assets, a \$22 million claim, will be the last to benefit. The one outstanding complication concerns Christopher Reckmeyer's wife, who believes she is entitled to half the proceeds of the Virginia estate. But the likelihood is that she will receive nothing.

Christopher Thomas

"I have two barns, they would make beautiful houses — what am I to do?"

Continued from page 17

As he watches the progress of planning permission for the Chivers' paddock, the village watches him. He is the thick end of the wedge it fears Mr Chivers might be driving. He has a passion for planning and housing. Indeed he is something of a visionary. Rumour has it that he once envisaged Lockeridge spreading to neighbouring Overton, which is feasible since Swanton land extends that far.

Gillie Swanton, a fifth generation farmer, inherited his 580 acres from his father Frank, who died in 1971, leaving a farm to each of his three sons. Gillie's borders Lockeridge on four sides with the exception of a single field. His visions are not popular in the village, especially not with those who fear it will be destroyed by developers. It is well known that he wants to develop parts of his land he says won't otherwise be used at all.

"I have two beautiful barns, about 200 years old, built from off-cuts of Sarsen stone," he says. "They're no use to me now and I could pull them down, but I have a conscience about these things."

"On the other hand, I don't want to get lumbered with their upkeep just because they are there. They would make two, possibly four, beautiful houses. What am I to do?"

The Council for the Protection of Rural England which has opposed him in the past would say "preserve them for future generations". But he says: "The thing is, a village never remained what it was. It has always been in a state of flux."

"A lot of townspeople moving into a village have an idea they want to keep it as a museum to what they think it was. But the mere fact they have moved into the village alters the village." He has recently sold two corner sites to developers, where farm buildings are being turned into executive houses.

He would like to provide low cost housing for first-time buyers but he says he cannot because of the planning restrictions on properties which have a view. There is, in any case, a steady market for executive houses. He doesn't see why one shouldn't be built on Mr Chivers's paddock.

"It's right in the middle of the village. It has houses all round it. It's one of those pockets of land where, in terms of the countryside, it won't stand out."

In short, he approves of it for the very reason others object. Bruce Chivers, a large affable man, stands over the plans for the house of unusual design and shrugs at suggestions that it is out of keeping with its surroundings. "It's perfectly reasonable if you look at it," he says.

But he was always aware there would be opposition. "There's always is to everything," he says. "But no one with any objections has been to see us."

They have, however, taken his gently-spoken wife by surprise. "It was only a few days before the open meeting that a neighbour popped in to say 'Hey, I've been asked to sign this petition against the house and I'm not sure I want to.'"

Mrs Chivers runs the over-sixties group in the village and though she is fascinated by local history, she shows no inclination to be part of it.

All she will say is "There is a great need for low-cost housing of some sort for young people. If we're not careful, we're going to end up with a lopsided community."

The Chivers have sold off land before. Indeed their solicitor lives in one of the executive houses built on it. So Mr Chivers is prepared to be patient. And support comes from quarters far less materially involved than Farmer Swanton.

Stanley Philpott, sitting in



Homes from barns: Farmer Gillie Swanton, a man with visions of change which are unpopular in and beyond the village

his chair by the window of his pristine bungalow for the elderly, recently built on fields he used to play in as a boy, is in favour of any new houses. He and his wife Dorothy were for Gillie Swanton when he wanted to build houses at the top of the village but was refused permission.

"There's no life in the village," he says. "Young people can't afford to live in it. It's

a village for elderly people and weekenders."

He is one of the very few of his generation born and bred in Lockeridge who still lives there. He is 66 and he and Dorothy are pillars of the Chapel. In fact they built the chapel and now they, their daughter Sarah with her family, and the Smiths from Overton are the entire congregation.

They remember when the two evangelists, Azler and Rouse came into churches Lockeridge in the early 1900s and held services in tents. "There was a need," they remember.

Their memories are long and vivid and if they are content and grateful for the comfort of their lives now, they regret the passing of old village values. They married

55 years ago when they were both in service. Mr Philpott was a kennel man.

"This was the Giffard's village," Mr Philpott says. "When Henry Rycroft Giffard was chief magistrate of Marlborough, he lived in Lockeridge House with his daughters. Miss Polly was the scout mistress and Miss Maud was the guide mistress. No one ever wanted for anything."

During the First World War they kept people in skimmed milk and butter. No one has done what they did."

Mrs Philpott is thoughtful. "Of course the need doesn't arise," she smiles. "The serf has risen up. Jack is as good as his master." They used to live in a terrace opposite the school which is now all one house.

"One person comes down once a week or once a month to live in it," Mr Philpott reports with some vexation. "The thatched house next door to that which used to be three is now one. And the house opposite has been gazzumped three times and now it's gone to London, to another weekend."

"They aren't much good to the village. They don't give much to the village. Some of them want it tied up in a box for posterity."

The vicar of Overton-cum-Fyfield parish which includes Lockeridge also regrets the passing of old village life, when people were very much themselves and there was a feeling that you belonged. Graham Force-Jones is a family man, a man who enters into the spirit of things. He and his family have lived in the rectory outside Lockeridge for six years.

Apart from the fact that he wears sandals whatever the weather, he is famous for being a jolly good pantomime dame. "If you live in a village," he says, "and you aren't going to be part of it, then you're not taking advantage of what the village has to offer. You think people come to the village because village life is what they want, but that doesn't seem to be so any more."

He would like to see more cheap housing for young families. "About the only people who can afford to buy into Lockeridge now are financiers. City-based people." The village has 22 council dwellings. "You ask them to build more houses and the council

says people don't want to live in villages. But I know that kids grow up and have to move away who would like to stay. Village populations are now tending to be very wealthy and geriatric."

It's a tendency being felt keenly in the local school. "The trouble is there simply aren't the numbers in the village to replace the ones leaving," says the headmaster, Paul Burrowbridge.

It distresses him to know there are sets of houses that would have had families with children in them which are now used only by weekenders. "The buildings that are available are out of the average person's price range. I couldn't afford to buy one."

Miss Eileen Fortune who took her first teaching job at the school when she was 19 and is due to retire next Easter after 39 years, says her pupils are no longer country children. "Country children were very simple. They took far greater pleasure from simpler things. The current generation are more complicated."

There's much more general knowledge from television," she says, "but they don't know their wild flowers, not even the simple ones. They don't play in the hedges."

Yet it's about the hedges that the dispute over Lockeridge's proposed 114th house lingers, conducted in tones rarely less than civil because villagers don't like to fall out with each other. Whether an executive house of unusual design is built on Mr Chivers's paddock, whether it's sold for cheap buyers or first-time buyers won't matter much in the long run to cordial relations. But interests will continue to clash, quietly, because newcomers hanker for the old life and the old village sees a need for new.

It's all a question of preservation.

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End of long war

Production chiefs foot pay league

US buy

MARKETS

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H&WT
offer
raised

Melbourne (Reuters) — The battle for control of the Herald and Weekly Times (H&WT), Australia's largest newspaper group, intensified yesterday with an increased offer by one of the bidders.

JN Taylor Holdings, a subsidiary of Mr Robert Holmes à Court's Bell Group, has lifted its bid by 50 cents a share to A\$13.50 (£6.05). Mr John Dahlsen, the H&WT chairman, reported.

This compares with the bid by Mr Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation of A\$12 (£5.44) a share. The H&WT board meets today to decide on the bid.

Meanwhile, Taylor is also offering scrip alternatives of nine Taylor convertible notes or preference shares for every five H&WT shares.

Mr Holmes à Court has altered the terms of his offer by requiring acceptance of only 52 per cent.

Unit trust tip

Laing & Cruckshank, the investment manager, is, unusually, recommending a unit trust which has not yet been launched, as one of its tips for 1987. It is the Dumenil Spanish Growth Fund, due to be launched this month, which will be the first British authorized unit trust to invest exclusively in equities quoted on the Spanish market.

In the first *Family Money* of the New Year, we canvass the views of leading investment managers on the best markets for unit trusts in 1987. We look ahead to what sweeping changes in the personal finances world will mean for private investors, and offer 10 ideas for financial New Year resolutions. All that, and more, in tomorrow's seven page *Family Money*.

Saudi change

Saudi Arabia appears to have altered its economic course, abandoning an attempt to balance its budget and accepting the need for deficit-spending to revive the economy, economists said in Bahrain.

\$18m US buy

Willis Faber, the insurance broker, has purchased McAlear Associates, a US surplus-lines broker, for \$18.5 million (£12.5 million) in cash. A further sum of up to \$1 million will be payable.

MARKETS

STOCK MARKETS

New York Dow Jones 1895.85 (-12.66)
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Closed
Hong Kong Hang Seng 2568.30 (+8.94)
Amsterdam Gen 278.1 (same)
Frankfurt DAX 1472.8 (+2.6)
Paris CAC 4095.61 (same)
Zurich S&K Gen 558.10 (same)
London FTSE 1679.0 (+5.9)
FT 30 Share 1313.9 (+5.3)

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Royal Bank of Scotland 11.00%
TSB 11.00%
Citibank NA 11.00%
† Mortgage Base Rate.

End of industry's long winter in sight

If 1986 was the year in which falling oil prices made the world economy hesitate, 1987 should be the year in which cheaper oil puts a tiger back in the tank.

That, at any rate, is the theory on which economists are basing their hopes for an expansionary world in the New Year. So far, oil-importing countries have been uncomfortably slow to spend the increase in their real incomes caused by cheaper oil.

But both theorists and practical men agree that 1987 promises to be a considerably better year for industry than 1986 and particularly good for manufacturing.

In Britain, this is good news after manufacturing's long retreat. And it is good news for a government seeking re-election. Though inflation will rise, unemployment should fall. Despite a large and not unpopular increase in public spending, Government borrowing is well under control and the prospects for tax cuts are growing.

The main threat to this attractive outlook is the stability of the pound. Opec and North Sea oil between them have effectively kept the balance of payments out of the headlines for several years. This year, Britain's current account will move back into deficit and sterling may again become vulnerable to worries about trade.

On the world stage, there is also the formidable problem of the trade imbalance between the US and the other two major leading economic powers of the West, Germany and Japan. This prompts protectionist pressures in the US and continually undermines currency stability, threatening loss of confidence and higher interest rates.

Barring a collapse of confidence in the dollar, however, world trade this year, weighted by British shares — continues to grow by 4½ per cent compared with only 2 per cent last year, according to the Treasury's latest published forecast.

Faster growth in world trade combined with some improvement in competitiveness from the fall in sterling should help exports. On the Treasury's reckoning, exports of goods and services could grow by 3 per cent (and non-oil exports by 5½ per cent)

against only 1 per cent last year.

Since that forecast was prepared productivity has gone on growing while pay increases show further signs of slowing down. Settlements in manufacturing monitored by the Confederation of British Industry have slowed from 6½ per cent in the first half of last year to 5½ per cent in the third quarter and only 4½ per cent in the fourth quarter.

According to Mr Peter Spencer of Credit Suisse First Boston, the Treasury's forecast of a 2½ per cent rise in manufacturers' unit labour costs may now be too pessimistic, suggesting that most of the strong gain in competitiveness from the sharp fall in the pound will be retained.

On the domestic side, consumer spending, fuelled by high, real pay increases, will continue to grow rapidly — by 4 per cent, according to the Treasury against 5 per cent last year. A high level of company profitability will maintain non-oil investment, though lower oil prices will continue to depress North Sea spending. And as output rises some stockbuilding is expected.

It all adds up to a year of more balanced growth in the economy compared with last year's consumer boom and probably faster growth. The consensus among independent forecasters is for growth in GDP of 2.7 per cent, not far from the Treasury's estimate of 3 per cent compared with

2½ per cent last year. Nobody is going to quarrel much with the Chancellor if he claims a sixth successive year of sustained expansion.

Views about inflation and the balance of payments, however, are much more varied. Everyone expects growth in the retail price index to be higher by the final quarter of the year, but expectations vary from 3½ per cent forecast by the LBS to 5½ per cent expected by the NIESR. The Treasury is at the optimistic end of the range, with 3½ per cent. Much will depend in the short-term on movements in the mortgage rate and in the slightly longer term on the exchange rate.

Views on the balance of payments are even more divergent. Lower oil prices mean lower earnings on North Sea exports, while buoyant consumer spending means a hefty import bill — everyone agrees that. But how energetically British industry will be able to take advantage of demand both at home and overseas sharply divides optimists from pessimists.

Gloomiest is the National Institute, whose latest forecast predicted a deficit of £5.6 billion. Most optimistic is the Treasury with a deficit of £1.5 billion. But, again, readings from the most recent tea-leaves are not discouraging. Imports of consumer goods in the latest three months appear to have fallen compared with the previous three months.

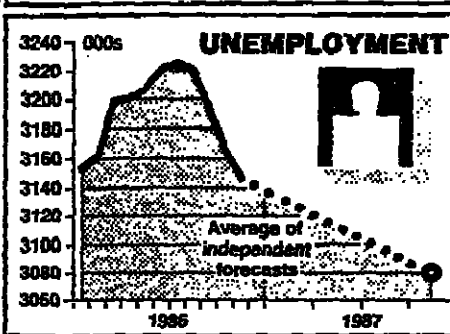
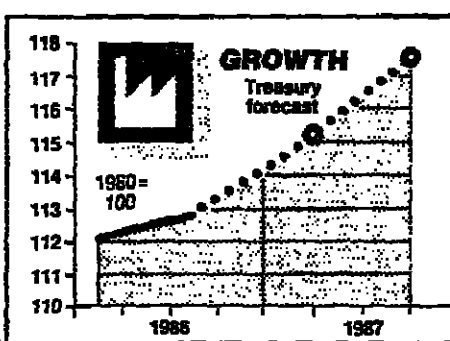
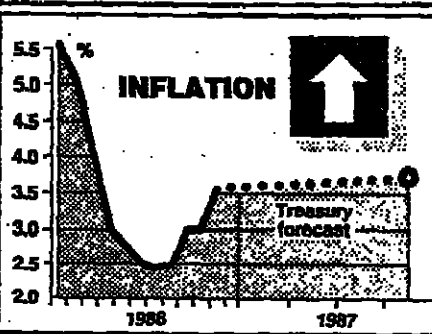
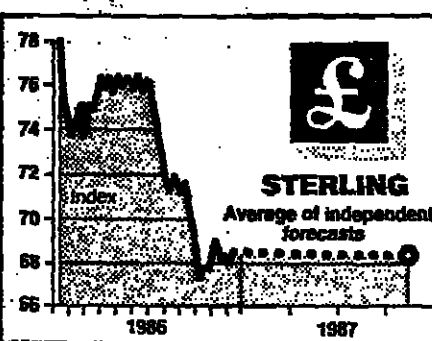
These uncertainties will have to be borne in mind by the Chancellor as he begins to think about the Budget. Already he has made it clear that there will be no overt relaxation. The public sector borrowing requirement, he promised at the time of the Autumn Statement, will be no higher than its previously planned level of 1½ per cent of GDP. In that sense, Mr Lawson has already made his Budget judgement.

Given this apparently stern attachment to fiscal orthodoxy, can we expect tax cuts in this year's Budget? Almost certainly we can, though the picture could change radically between now and Budget time.

Revenue is running strongly ahead of forecast in the current financial year, to such an extent that, despite an overrun on public spending, the PSBR is expected to be below the target of £7 billion — perhaps well below it. Revenue from indirect taxes has benefited from the consumer spending boom while the take from Corporation Tax, at one time minimal, has risen strongly in proportion to rising company profitability. The recent increase in the oil price will also boost revenue.

Another massive swing in oil prices, a dollar crisis, or concern about the price of a general election, could all upset this happy prospect. But, for the time being, 1987 does not look at all bad.

Rodney Lord
Economics Editor



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Production chiefs foot pay league

By David Young

A review of senior management salaries shows that attempts by the Government to persuade more graduates to enter the engineering and production industries are likely to be affected by the scale of earnings in that sector.

The annual survey of salaries for senior managers and directors in companies with a turnover of between £1 million and £20 million shows those in production and engineering are at the bottom of the six categories covered.

The review conducted by the remuneration adviser, the Monk Partnership, shows that the median board salary in the engineering and production industries is £24,000 compared with £33,000 in general management.

It also shows that a chief executive in the leisure and professional sector is likely to be earning an average of £54,600 while his counterpart in metals and mechanical engineering will be earning £37,600. The average for all industries is £44,000.

The author of the report, Mr Tony Vernon-Harcourt, said: "For anyone who hopes to persuade the able individual to choose a career in production or engineering, the league table is not encouraging."

Local Authority Dependent (%)
1 month 11% 11% 11% 11%
3 month 11% 11% 11% 11%
6 month 11% 11% 11% 11%

Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 month 11% 11% 11% 11%
3 month 11% 11% 11% 11%
6 month 11% 11% 11% 11%

Pearson in £51.5m engineering sale

By Our City Staff

Pearson, the publishing, banking and fine china company, is pulling out of engineering activities through the sale of its Fairley offshoot in a £51.5 million management buy-out.

The disposal of the buyout group, which has financial backing from Electric Caledonia and Samuel Montagu, follows discussions with a number of other potential buyers.

Mr Derek Kingsbury remains as chief executive, while Sir Alan Veale will be the new chairman of Fairley. Fairley's sale marks the final stage of Pearson's withdrawal from general engineering operations.

Lord Lawson, Pearson chairman, said yesterday: "Pearson will continue to concentrate on developing its activities in chosen areas of specialization. The recently announced acquisition of the New English Library, a major US paperback publisher, and Pearson's participation in BSB, the consortium which has just been awarded the backing from the British satellite TV broadcasting licence, are part of this strategy."

For some time, the group has been rationalizing its activities. The £51.5 million paid by the buy-out team includes repayment of an interest free loan of £7 million. Pearson is selling Fairley at a premium of £9.2 million over underlying net asset value. Underlying profit of Fairley in 1985 was £9.3 million.

Europe could be the area to benefit most from weaker commodity prices, including oil, according to the latest assessment from Oxford Economic Forecasting.

If European countries cannot improve their performance now, say the forecasters, then the concept of "Euroclerosis" must gain still wider credence. Japanese growth will be

slower because of the effect of the stronger yen on competitiveness while oil investment in the US has been squeezed.

The Oxford group expects average economic growth in the leading seven countries to rise next year from 2.5 per cent to 2.7 per cent with Britain moving up from 2.1 per cent to 2.4 per cent.

The dollar is expected to fall further against the yen and a further realignment is predicted within the European Monetary System, though there will probably be a ½ point cut in German interest rates.

Meanwhile, a forecast from Lloyds Merchant Bank predicts growth in the British economy of 3 per cent this year with unemployment falling below 3 million in the second half.

Other Sterling Rates
Argentina dollar 1.880-1.885
Austria dollar 2.225-2.230
Belgian franc 2.355-2.360
Brazil cruzeiro 2.54-2.55
Canadian dollar 0.730-0.735
Cypriot pound 0.730-0.735
Danish krone 1.36-1.37
Deutsche mark 2.36-2.37
Hong Kong dollar 1.52-1.53
Indian rupee 1.10-1.11
Italian lira 1.36-1.37
Japanese yen 1.62-1.63
Korean won 2.81-2.82
Malaysian dollar 2.81-2.82
Mexican peso 1.22-1.23
New Zealand dollar 2.81-2.82
Saudi Arabian riyal 2.81-2.82
Singapore dollar 1.36-1.37
South African rand 2.81-2.82
Swedish krona 2.81-2.82
Swiss franc 2.81-2.82
Taiwan dollar 2.81-2.82
Thai baht 2.81-2.82
US dollar 1.48-1.49
Yemeni rial 2.81-2.82

Prices for Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV average reference rate for interest period November 23, 1986 to December 31, 1986 inclusive: 11.282 per cent.

Bus team buys out company

By Our City Staff

The Derby-based bus and coach operator, Trent Motor Traction, is being sold to an undisclosed price to its own management team.

This brings to 13 the number of National Bus Company's subsidiaries sold under the Government's privatization programme for the group.

The buyout has been led by Trent's managing director, Mr Brian King, with the support of three other directors. About 20 per cent of the shares are being set aside for the 1100 employees of the business.

NBC said several further sales are expected early this year and it was hoped that most, if not all, of the companies would be sold by the end of the year.

Further realignment is predicted within the European Monetary System, though there will probably be a ½ point cut in German interest rates.

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Mexican peso 1.22-1.23
New Zealand dollar 2.81-2.82
Saudi Arabian riyal 2.81-2.82
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COMMENT

Positive story behind UK share ownership

If in this year of a probable General Election, Mrs Thatcher chose to remind her supporters of a single aspect of her stewardship, she could do far worse than point to the performance of the Stock Market since 1979.

Once the worst of the oil-induced recession was over, the rise and rise of share prices has been a clear indicator of the improving health of Britain's corporate sector. Over the past seven years, total returns from investment in British equities have averaged a spectacular 25 per cent compound. The Thatcher years form the latter stages of the remarkable 11-year-old bull market which began with the turn of 1974-5.

It is a popular but erroneous view that the current interest in owning shares is due solely to the Government's privatization programme. But as our chart demonstrates, it is as much to do with the fact that shares are good news for the small investor once again, having fallen out of favour during the ferocious bear market of 1972-4. These days, almost everyone who has invested in a broad spread of British shares via a unit trust or investment trust has a healthy return to show and a positive story to tell.

This year it must be asked whether this golden spell for shares can continue much longer?

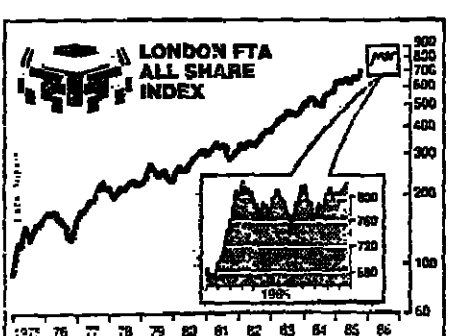
Among the City's market strategists there are plenty of warnings to be heard. Most expect gilt-edged stocks to produce better rates of return than shares over the coming 12 months. And those who are strongly bullish of the British equity market have typically made an assumption which most would find contentious — that Mrs Thatcher will go to the country in June or October and emerge with a working majority.

Leaving aside for the moment the implications of an election, there is little essential disagreement over the economic background for equity investment this year. It may not be soundly based but growth there will be. Britain's economy will be among the most rapidly expanding in the industrialized world this year.

Despite the Chancellor's assertion that he has not changed tack, public spending is now overtly on the increase in the pre-election period. Consumers' pockets will jingle ever louder thanks to tax cuts and real pay rises. Exports will grow thanks to sliding sterling while capital investment should be back to normal levels after the trough that came with the ending of capital allowances.

Gilt market men tend to regard all this as a policy patched up with chewing gum and string but which at the end of the day might just work. They doubt that however buoyant, tax revenues will be sufficient to keep PSBR from overshooting next financial year. They are uneasy about inflationary pressures and most wish that tax revenues were being used to cut borrowing rather than finance tax cuts.

Equity investors can afford to take a more relaxed view. Growth, sound or otherwise, is always good for the corporate sector. When the figures are in for 1986, profits of quoted industrial companies will have risen probably by



16 or 17 per cent. And depending on your assumptions, 12 to 15 per cent looks on the cards this year.

Dividends have been growing smartly throughout the past year and should still expand at a double figure rate through 1987. They need to. A 4 per cent yield on equities looks meagre beside almost 11 per cent on long gilts. This yawning yield gap cannot help being a drag on share prices in the early part of the year at least.

On this kind of arithmetic, the prospective rating on quoted industrials drops to around 11 or 12 times earnings per share, pretty much average over the past few years.

However the election — or the lack of it — will dominate the course of share prices over the next 12 months. Cautious men will note that shares are showing no discount for the risk of a Tory defeat. This suggests a volatile market over the coming months subject to the jitters if Mr Kinnoch beefs up his act but otherwise rising strongly in the run-up to a tax cutting budget.

Should Labour scrape home with a majority, there is considerable downside in equities. Profits may remain buoyant for some time, but the writing would be on the wall. Prospects of collapsing sterling, growing inflationary pressures thanks to Labour's planned public spending binge and worries over attempted state control of institutional investment would severely damage confidence.

A Tory victory would be better but not much. It would certainly produce the usual knee-jerk market euphoria which, as so often at election time, could prove misfounded. The first task of the next Tory chancellor would surely be to damp down the inflationary pressure built up in the pre-election period, possibly as a prelude to EMS entry.

Either way that would entail a slowdown in consumer spending and a squeeze on company profits. Against this backdrop, the attractions of cash and bonds look considerable for institutional investors. Also, they will be hedging their bets further by buying shares which gain from sterling weakness.

A vintage year for shares does not look in prospect. But if you fancy a 1987 flutter on a Tory victory, buy British Telecom, currently on a give-away rating thanks to nationalization fears. If Mrs Thatcher pulls it off, they will be far higher next New Year, than the present 214p.

John Bell
City Editor

The Saints Savings Scheme.

You have probably seen all the publicity for Personal Equity Plans — PEPs. But before you join a PEP have a look at The Saints Savings Scheme. Stewart Ivory and Company manages this Scheme to make it easier for both existing and new investors to accumulate shares in The Scottish American Investment Company, or Saints, as it is known to investors.

Better Value
The Saints Savings Scheme represents better value as you can take advantage of the present remarkable discount of 18½%. You are buying assets worth 100p for 82½p — and you are also receiving income on the 100p worth of assets.

Charges
Most PEPs are charged 3.5% when you buy. Our Scheme simply charges the purchase cost of 0.24% (plus stamp duty of 0.5%). Annual management charges against Saints dividend income have been less than 0.5%, but most PEPs have annual charges of 1%.

International Portfolio
Through The Saints Savings Scheme you have a simple means of acquiring a stake in a broadly based international portfolio of shares which also includes smaller and unquoted companies.

Small Shareholders
The Saints Savings Scheme is designed for small shareholders to invest with less trouble and at a lower cost than through buying the same shares on the Stock Market.

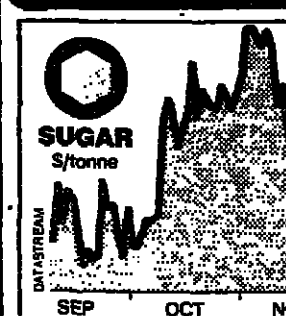
Three Options
The Scheme has three options: Regular Saving enables you to save regular

amounts each month for investment in Saints shares (minimum amount £25 per month).

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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Another short week for the comm relatively thin volume trading and There has been a lack of news re and most participants are closely

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

Portfolio Gold

To assist those readers who were unable to obtain a copy of The Times on New Year's Day, we are repeating the Portfolio Gold game from yesterday's newspaper.

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements, on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

| No. | Company | Group | Gain or Loss |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | Eys (Wimborne) | Drugs/Stores | |
| 2 | Bromsgrove Inds | Industrials A-D | |
| 3 | Wade Potteries | Industrials S-Z | |
| 4 | Road Executive | Industrials L-R | |
| 5 | Pepper (H) | Industrials E-K | |
| 6 | Bank of Ireland | Bank/Discount | |
| 7 | Quest Automation | Electricals | |
| 8 | Tomkins | Textiles | |
| 9 | Oxley (M&S) | Industrials A-D | |
| 10 | Unicraft Kilgour | Drugs/Stores | |
| 11 | Lon Park Hotels | Hotels/Catering | |
| 12 | Garfunkels | Foodstuffs | |
| 13 | Bedoune | Industrials A-D | |
| 14 | Whitbread Inv | Breweries | |
| 15 | Winterson | Paper/Print/Adv | |
| 16 | Mulligan Bros | Electricals | |
| 17 | Stone Int | Industrials L-R | |
| 18 | Manganese Bronze | Industrials L-R | |
| 19 | Beele (John) | Textiles | |
| 20 | Ash & Lacey | Industrials A-D | |
| 21 | Tridinger House | Industrials S-Z | |
| 22 | Gen Accident | Insurance | |
| 23 | Unigate | Foodstuffs | |
| 24 | Liberty | Drugs/Stores | |
| 25 | Bradford | Property | |
| 26 | Kowat Mac | Foodstuffs | |
| 27 | Westwick Rugs | Industrials L-R | |
| 28 | Fedgill & Harvey | Industrials E-K | |
| 29 | Trico | Foodstuffs | |
| 30 | Enkine House | Industrials E-K | |
| 31 | Bramall (CD) | Motor/Aircraft | |
| 32 | Jordan (Thomas) | Industrials E-K | |
| 33 | Body Shop | Drugs/Stores | |
| 34 | Kelley Ind | Industrials E-K | |
| 35 | Glynwed | Industrials E-K | |
| 36 | Thomson T-Line | Industrials S-Z | |
| 37 | Hawker Siddeley | Industrials S-Z | |
| 38 | Accord | Newspapers | |
| 39 | Kennedy Brooks | Hotels/Catering | |
| 40 | Gold Greenleaf | Paper/Print/Adv | |
| 41 | Enterprise | Oil | |
| 42 | M. Higgs | Industrials L-R | |
| 43 | Lea | Industrials L-R | |
| 44 | Sovereign | Oil | |
| © Times Newspapers Ltd. Daily Total | | | |

Please take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £3.00 in Saturday's newspaper.

| MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | WEEKLY |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| | | | | | | |

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low Stock Price Change %

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

| Company | Price | Change | % |
|---------|--------|--------|------|
| 1 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 6 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 13 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 14 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
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| 24 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
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| 28 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 29 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 30 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 31 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 32 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 33 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 34 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 35 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 36 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 37 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 38 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 39 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 40 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 41 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 42 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 43 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 44 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

| Company | Price | Change | % |
|---------|--------|--------|------|
| 1 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 6 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
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| 39 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 40 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 41 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
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| 43 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 44 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

| Company | Price | Change | % |
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INDEX-LINKED

| Company | Price | Change | % |
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| 2 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | 100.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
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BANKS DISCOUNT HP

| Company | Price | Change | % |
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What are the prospects for football in the new year?
The Times invited four leaders of the game to present their appraisal of its virtues and its vices. Today, in the second of the series, **Graham Kelly** (right), the secretary of the Football League, views the way ahead



TOMORROW

Gordon Taylor, secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, examines the issues from the players' standpoint

Gordon Taylor, secretary of the Professional Footballers' Association, examines the issues from the players' standpoint

From Barry Pickthall, Fremantle

TODAY'S RACES: Champagne Series—Stars and Stripes v USA II; Hurdle Chase—Kookaburra III v Kookaburra IV; Kentucky v Kookaburra II; Australia IV v Kookaburra III.

In Kevin Parry's Taskforce 10 with the satisfaction of disqualification, Alan Bond's Challenge following the collision between Australia IV and Kookaburra II shortly before the start of their match on Monday. The court found that Kookaburra II, skippered by Peter Gilmour, who until this decision had never won a protest, to have sailed within five feet of the two yachts collided. The judgement reads: "Both yachts were overlapped, and approximately half a boat-length apart, and were moving slightly converging course being

From Barry Wood, Brisbane

got to the stage where I'm close but it's time I was winning some of the matches against the top players."

Despite that Sukova felt the British girl was not doing herself justice. "She was serving well and returning well, especially in the first set," the 1986 US Open first round loser said. "She was a first seed and made some easy mistakes, but managed to put more pace on my volleys and concentrate better as the match went on. I was more confident in the second and third sets too."

Hana Mandlikova, the top seed, struggled in the first set against compatriot, Regina Marsikova, squeezing through after a tie break in the first set to avenge a meeting with Canada's Helen Kiefer, who defeated her almost a year ago in their only previous meeting.

"I really didn't expect her to play that well," said the 23-year-old Marsikova. "She served well and came in and hit some lucky shots. In the second set I served a little better and passed her more easily. I still need to improve my serve, but I usually get better every match so I'm confident."

RESULTS: Third round: E. Pfaff (FRG) to A. Panatta (ITA), 6-3, 6-4, 6-2; M. Navratilova (CZ) to R. Marsikova (CZ), 7-6, 6-0, 6-3; J. H. Kiefel (CAN) to C. J. O'Connell (SWZ), 6-3, 6-2; H. Kiefer (CAN) to H. Mandlikova (CZ), 6-3, 6-2; B. Nagelsen (USA) to P. Lindholm (SWE), 3-6, 6-3, 7-6.

By a Correspondent

England have three players equalling their best in the European top twelve men's and women's tournaments, regarded as the most gruelling format in the world, starting in Basle, Switzerland today.

The prospect of having to battle in a field of 50 players, with a high of 11 best-of-five matches makes extravagant demands on concentration and stamina, and is the most serious obstacle in the path of Desmond Douglas, the England champion.

At 31, Douglas, aged 31, has arguably been the most dangerous player in Europe in the last eight years, but is now the second oldest competitor in the tournament. He is probably still good enough to challenge for the title, but the time has undoubtedly come when he will have to rely on victory at the very last moment.

Time is beginning to run out for the brilliant Birmingham left-hander, and England will, therefore, be looking for improved support from the likes of Chris Cowdrey, the batsman, and Peter Trewartha, the batsman, 11th last in the Bundesliga form in the German Bundesliga and has beaten Aadzzej Grubba, the 1985 top twelve winner. Grubba and Jan-Ove Waldner, the 1984 top twelve winner, are likely to pose the biggest threat.

Flora Batanova, the holder, Olga Menova, the former champion, and Olga Menova, the former champion, are also likely to pose a threat.

By Sydney Friskin

The winner of the tournament will receive £50,000 from a total of £250,000 offered in prize money, and the sum of £25,000 for any player who makes the maximum break of 147 is an added incentive. All matches up to the quarter-finals will be played on the basis of the best-of-nine frames, the semi-finals over 17, and the final over 25.

By Colin McQuillan

two-hour match of minuscule court coverage.

Harris went with creative defense shots. He said after the match, "My option remaining to a dead-legged player. Gregory went home after dressing room discussion. I was a bit of a drunk. I drank a pint of water containing the entire contents of his mother's kitchen crock, and, not surprisingly, failed to play a drop of the play for the third place play-off.

Harris and Gregory have experienced much since then. They fought a long and hard chess match in company with Robert Graham and Damian Walker, finishing second to the Australian hosts and dousing one or two leading lights along the way. Harris leads the impoverished Ardleigh Hall squad in the National League,

By Michael Coleman

The stars and stripes were in strong evidence as 127 young Americans gave the New Year's Day 10km race round Hyde Park an international flavour. The International Sports Exchange, of California, produced the runners, who wore the colours of 12 Midwest Sports Tours of South Dakota.

All were splendidly equipped sartorially and aesthetically, which helped to whip up the excitement of the race of the huge field of 750 competitors lapping the Serpentine and the park's carriageways.

"It's a splendid way for our young people to practice their sport and see Europe at the same time," said John G. Gorman, chief of mission of the ISE group.

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

The ghost of Guo Nyinbram must be running as far from Mountain Ash as possible today after a series of administrative errors in the New Year's Eve race. In the confusion, the organizers had left the future of the revived *Nos Galan* event in grave doubt. Guo was the 18th-century runner whom the race celebrates.

The celebrations went awry from the start, where Kinsir Wade, the "mystery runner" bringing the burning torch down the hillside from Guo's tomb in Llanwanoon churchyard, to start the race in Mountain Ash was pre-empted. The signal to begin the midnight race was given when the runners were still on the high street and although Wade joined in as the 600-strong field swept past her, she could only finish fourth in the

SR), T Klampar (Hong), U Ca
Z Kallik (Yng), C Preau

HOCKEY
England could get artificial opportunity
By Sydney Friskin

A qualifying tournament for the Junior World Cup could well be played in England during the autumn if Gibraltar are unable to provide an artificial turf pitch for the three-nation competition involving Gibraltar, Belgium and England.

Fishing by Conrad Voss Bark

Much to many people's surprise, the *Trout & Salmon* magazine which has always supported and publicized competitions has suddenly condemned them in an article saying that competitions make too much slaughter of the fish. The magazine asks for readers' opinions.

Trout fishing competitions on still waters began on Scottish lochs more than 100 years ago when mainly lowland clubs had a day's outing, fishing the loch and giving themselves the fish. The only prize was a cup or a medal for the winning club. In those days the trout were wild and catches were accordingly limited.

Today, club competitions of English and Welsh reservoirs are sponsored by commercial organizations like the Better Fishing Club which by big-money prizes and a great deal of publicity and personal glory for the winners.

The water authorities compete by stocking large numbers of fish to add to the bag. It is not a

TODAY'S FIXTURES

OTHER SPORT

BADMINTON: Yorkshire open championship (at York, 6)

BASKETBALL: World invasion club championships (at Crystal Palace NSC, 3pm)

DARTS: Mf British Open (at Rainbow Sea Kensington 10)

RACKETBALL: Open League 24 singles and doubles championships (at Queens Club West Kensington)

REAL TENNIS: Scottish amateur singles and doubles championship (at Troon, 8pm)

SCOTCH: British free-style championships (at Spanish, Austria)

SNOOKER: Mercuriale Great Classic (at Blackpool)

SQUASH RACKETBALL: Newest Under 19 Open, Crystal Palace (at Lamo's SC, London, 5.15); Northwest British junior championship (at Durham, 3.30)

TABLE TENNIS: Junior open, county championships (at Queen's Club, West Kensington)

The seedlings suggest that Paul Gregory, of Surrey, will provide the final opposition for Harris. The pair are established adversaries, with an increasing element of professional competition colouring their friendship. To meet again on Monday, however, they must survive an international field which misses only the top Australians and Pakistanis.

SPORT REAL TENNIS: S

RADMINTON: Yorkshire open championship (at York). 6
BASKETBALL: World invitational club championships (at Crystal Palace NDC, 9.30pm)
DARTS: MFI British Open (at Rainbow Suite Kensington 10)
RACKETS: Open Under 24 singles and doubles championships (at Queen's Club West Kensington)
AND doubles championships (at Troon).
SKIING: British free-style championships (at Saatchi, Auloma).
SNOWKES: Mercantile Credit Classic (at Blackpool).
SQUASH: SACKETS: Watney Under 19 Open, Drysdale Cup (Luton & St. Leonards, EC1); Watney Senior junior championship (at Durham, 3.30).
TENNIS: Junior covered court championships (at Queen's Club, West Kensington)

...the winner by a

Looking both ways with Dylan



● Ignoring the injunction *Don't Look Back* which gave last year's *Jim Morrison* film (and Bob Dylan's British tour title, *Dylan*, tonight's *Arena* film of a concert the singer gave during his Australian tour last year is prefaced with the clip from *Don't Look Back* in which a youthful, doleful Dylan peeled off pages of lyrics in time with his rendering of *Subterranean Homesick Blues*. The resurrected preface serves no purpose beyond demonstrating that the passing years have left their mark both on Dylan's face and voice. To be honest, however, the *Arena* film should not be regarded as an accurate guide to the full extent of time's degradations because the director, who is also editor and cameraman at the Australian concert had their work cut out to keep the vocal and visual Dylan in sharp focus. The songs span the

years from 1965 (*Like a Rolling Stone*) to 1985 (*I'll Remember You*), and people better versed in Dylanology than I tell me that in this one concert, it is possible to chart the singer's entire progress from pop poet to evangelist. They cannot satisfactorily explain to me, however, why the never-ending list of closing credits mentions everybody from accounting and finances staff to telephone operators and despatch technicians.

● **Best of the rest on TV today:** David Lean's mighty *Lawrence of Arabia* (BBC2, 4.55pm) which squeezed on to the small screen, gains in dramatic intensity what it loses in panoramic sweep; Anthony Mann's *Winchester 73*

(Channel 4, 10.30pm) which is everything a good Western should be - and then some; and Norman Jewison's *Fiddler on the Roof* (BBC1, 2.00pm) which proved that although Topol really was a one-role actor, that one role was brilliantly explored at both comical and tragic levels. *Poetigeist* (see right) is a real shocker, but the finale is too crudely silly for words.

● **Radio choice:** an almost completely successful attempt at turning Kafka's *Metamorphosis* into a radio play (Radio 3, 9.00pm), and the final instalment of *Persuasion* (Radio 4, 11.00am) which does the same for Jane Austen. The best thing about Vanessa Whitburn's production is that all the voices are absolutely true to the period.

Peter Davalle

Heather O'Rourke as the terrorised daughter in Poltergeist (BBC1, 10.30pm)



6.00 **Caccia AM.**
News headlines followed by *The Flintstones*, Cartoon series. (r) 6.55 **Weather.**

7.00 **Breakfast Time** with Frank
Stromberg and Jennifer
National and international
news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and
8.30; regional news and travel
reports at 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15;
weather at 7.25, 7.55, 8.05, 8.25.
8.55 **Regional news**
and weather.

9.00 **News and weather.** 9.05 **Play**
Cheers with William
Hartston 9.10 **Dragons and Dragons.**
(r) 9.35 **Why Don't You?**
Includes an eight-year old **BMD**
World Champion; and the
winners of the **Help the Aged**
Contest.

10.00 **News and weather.** 10.05
Neighbours. (r) 10.25
Children's BBC. **Phillip**
Schofield with programme
news and birthday greetings
10.30 **Play School.** (r) 10.50
Willo the Wisp. (r)

10.55 **Five to Eleven.** **Peter**
Barkworth with a thought for
the day 11.00 **News and**
weather. 11.05 **Wild World.**
The wildlife that inhabits motorway
verges. Narrated by Martin
Jarvis. (r)

12.00 **News and weather.** 12.05
Inside the Labyrinth.
documentary about the making
of the film **Labyrinth**, starring
David Bowie and **Jennifer**
Connelly, made by **Muppet**
man **Jim Henson**, and
showing technology 12.55
Regional news and weather.

1.00 **One O'Clock News** with **Phil**
Hayton. **Weather.** 1.25
Neighbours. A court
appearance news. **Max** 1.45
Pigeon Street. (r)

2.00 **Fiddler on the Roof** (1971)
starring **Topol**, **Norma Crane**,
Leonard Frey, and **Paul**
Michael Glasser. A musical
tale of a Jewish millmaker
find the money to marry of
his five daughters. Directed by
Norman Panama.

4.55 **Thurman's Tale.** The first of a
cartoon science fiction

adventure series.
5.35 *Roll Harris* Caravan Times.
6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with
 Nicholas Witchell and Philip
 Hayton. Weather.
6.05 *London Plus*
7.35 *Wogan*. Tonight's guests
 include Robert Wagner, Jill St
 John, and Leslie Crowther.
7.45 *Allo! Allo!* Rene panics when
 a song from Wilkinhoth
 demands the services of his
 two new waitresses who are
 the two British girls in the
 disguise. At the castle,
 Michelle of the French
 Resistance plans the airman's
 escape, recruiting Monsieur
 Alphonse, the undertaker, to
 help.
8.10 *Dynasty*. Krystle, lying in her
 bed of pain, meets her would-
 be murderer; and Alexis forces
 the Assistant District Attorney
 to prosecute Blake for the fire
 at the Colson.
9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Julia
 Somerville and Andrew
 Harvey. Regional news and
 weather.
9.30 *On the Piste*. A documentary
 following members of the
 1984-85 racing club, The Down
 Hill Only Club, based in the
 Swiss resort of Wengen, as
 they prepare to celebrate its
 75th winter sports festival with
 a 75th anniversary downhill race
 beginning with a mass start
 and a no-holds-barred dash to
 the finishing line. (Continued)
10.30 *Film: Porgesset* (1982)
 starring JoBeth Williams, Craig
 T Nelson, and John Cazale.
 A chatter about an
 ordinary Californian suburban
 family whose lives become hell
 when the 10-year-old daughter
 discovers evil spirits coming
 from the television set. A
 Steven Spielberg story,
 directed by Tobe Hooper.
 (Continued)
12.30 *Late Night in Concert*.
 Supergrass Veggis recorded at
 the Royal Albert Hall.
1.00 *Weather*

9.00 *Celestial*
11.05 *Harold Lloyd's* Excerpts from the comedian's films. Speedy, made in 1928, and I Do, a 1921 production. (1)
11.30 *Films of a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad* World (1963) A star-studded comedy about a motley collection of characters seen on the trail of a mad, mad robber's loot. The story is full of car chases, spectacular stunts, and cross and double cross. With, amongst others, Tony Tracy, Michael Berle, Jimmy Durante, Phil Silvers, Terry-Thomas, and Peter Falk. Directed by Stanley Kramer.
2.00 *Chickadee!* A comedy challenge. A highlight of last night's highlights of the one-day games between Australia and England in Perth, introduced by Richie Benaud.
2.50 *Wine in Florida.* Tony Soper meets the waterbirds of Florida.
3.40 *The Gentlemen Factory.* A day in the life of Eton College at work and at play. With commentary by William Rushton and contributions from Michael Bentine, Patrick Macnee, Lords and Lady Carrington, and Joanna Lumley.
4.20 *News,* regional news and weather.
4.30 *Wild in Earth.* A wildlife quiz presented by Jeremy Charles. With Sheila Anderson, David Macdonald, Givie Hatchpole, and Peter Ferns.
4.55 *The Lawrence of Arabia* (1962) starring Peter O'Toole, Alec Guinness, Anthony Quinn, Jack Hawkins, and Donald Wolfit. A spectacular biopic tracing the career of Lawrence from the time he was a young army lieutenant stationed in Cairo at the time of the Arab revolt against the Turks. This award-winning production was directed by David Lean. (CeeFax)
5.10 *The Delsey Review.* Delsey Television looks back at Britain's athletic year, and previews this year's World Championships in Rome.
5.00 *Dylan.* Anne presents the first new Bob Dylan television interview in more than a decade recorded during Dylan's 1986 tour of Australia. His backing group is Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers.
10.00 *Films: The Secret Drawer* (1978) The second and final part of the French thriller starring Michele Morgan as widow who, on the death of her husband, discovers that he had a double life. She sets out to discover the truth, and is soon convinced that her husband was not a victim of the 'plane crash' - but only her granddaughter and sons were. Together they go on holiday to Italy where a car meeting at a railway station throws more light on the mystery.
12.10 *Weather.*

7.00 **TV-am: Wide Awake Club**
Special presented by Arabella
Warren and James
McIntosh. A review of the latest
films for all the family and a
selection of the best 1986
videos.

9.25 **Thames news headlines**
followed by **BBC6** Best
International. The Cherry Coca
Cola Freestyle Championships,
introduced by Gary
Andy Ruffell from the Sands
Centre, Carlisle.

9.50 **The Piled Piper of Hemsell.** An
award-winning animated film
based on the Robert Browning
poem. Narrated by Robert
Hardy. (c) 10.25 **The Blue Hat.**
The story of Ekkehard
and his attempts to begin the
World and European bowlsight
championships.

10.55 **Film: The Great Muppet Caper**
(1981) starring Diana Ring,
Chris Gartin, John Cleese,
and Peter Ustinov. Comic
mayhem as the Muppets, with
human help, investigate a
diamond robbery. Directed by
Julie Jensen.

12.30 **A Heritage From Stone.** The
first programme in a repeat
series tracing Ireland's
archaeological heritage,
beginning at the 5,000 year old
Newgrange burial chamber.
Presented by Brian Boyd.

1.00 **On the case with Martin Suche**
1.20 **Thames news.**

1.10 **Film: The Goldwyn Follies**
(1938) starring Adolphe
Mouly and, way down the
credits, Alan Ladd. A tired and
uninspired film director Oliver
Marshall searches for 'The
Miss Average American' to find out
what she thinks the public want
to see in a musical
extravaganza. Directed by
George Marshall. 3.40 **Thames**
news headlines 3.45 **Sons and**
Daughters.

4.15 **Southwest New Year**
Special. Introduced by David
Jensen. Among the guests are
Siouxie and the Barenaked
Ladies, Boy Seated in
Dunes, and Dead or Alive.

7.00 **TV-am: Wide Awake Club**
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diamond robbery. Directed by
Julie Jensen.

12.30 **A Heritage From Stone.** The
first programme in a repeat
series tracing Ireland's
archaeological heritage,
beginning at the 5,000 year old
Newgrange burial chamber.
Presented by Brian Boyd.

1.00 **On the case with Martin Suche**
1.20 **Thames news.**

1.10 **Film: The Goldwyn Follies**
(1938) starring Adolphe
Mouly and, way down the
credits, Alan Ladd. A tired and
uninspired film director Oliver
Marshall searches for 'The
Miss Average American' to find out
what she thinks the public want
to see in a musical
extravaganza. Directed by
George Marshall. 3.40 **Thames**
news headlines 3.45 **Sons and**
Daughters.

4.15 **Southwest New Year**
Special. Introduced by David
Jensen. Among the guests are
Siouxie and the Barenaked
Ladies, Boy Seated in
Dunes, and Dead or Alive.

- 5.15 **30 Seconds or Less**, Channel 4. A series of sketches for teenagers, presented by Bob Holness.
- 5.45 **News** with Alastair Stewart
- 6.00 **The Nine News**
- 6.15 **Poetry**. Five. Show Taylor with clues to unsolved crime in the London area.
- 6.30 **That's My Boy**. Comedy series about a mother, Maggie Suggen, as the possessive mother of an adult son. In this episode jumping to conclusions for the coming season. Episode of *The Whitechapel* featured her son after he was abandoned. With Christopher Blake and Jennifer Longacre. (1)
- 7.00 **Newlywed Game**. Gloria Hunniford presents the first of a new series in which, each week, three newly-wed couples discover how little they know of their partner.
- 7.30 **Film: Shout at the Devil** (1976) starring Lee Marvin, Roger Moore, and Barbara Parkins. Adventure yarn, set in 1910s New Mexico where the Mexican area is ruled with a rod of iron by the commissioner. From Portuguese territory, Flynn O'Flynn makes a living by peddling ivory and other valuables from inside the German area, and then mocks an Englishman into joining him. The escapades will end with us when taking on the might of German battleship. Directed by Peter Hunt.
- 10.00 **News** at Five with Sandy Gall and Carol Barnes.
- 10.30 **Snooker**. Action from the fifth round of the Mercantile Classic, introduced by Dickie Davies from Norbreck Castles, Glasgow. Eddie Cheever, a Scot, who reached this stage via the in-form Rex Williams, meets John Parrott, the conqueror of Alex Higgins. Followed by Lynne's headline.
- 12.15 **New from London**. Uriah Heep in concert at the Camden Palace Theatre.
- 1.15 **Close**

- 10.00 **World Cup Soccer.** France versus Brazil. The most important and best games of the 1986 World Cup.
- 12.00 **Cricket: The Silk Cut All-Rounders Challenge.** From Hong Kong to which England's Graham Gough; Imran Khan of Pakistan; Kapil Dev from India; Richard Hadlee of New Zealand, defended his title for the second consecutive year; and South Africa's Clive Rice, compete for the title of the world's best all rounder.
- 2.00 **Soccer. A Mercantile Credit Classic** fifth round match between Dennis Taylor and Doug Mountjoy.
- 7.00 **Where Are You? Vintage American comedy series** about two hapless New York policemen, this week invited to work on a case which would celebrate their 10-year partnership.
- 5.30 **Queen: Real Magic.** A repeat of the recording of Queen's *Wayhead* Arena sell-out concert originally broadcast in series in October.
- 7.00 **Channel 4 News** with Nicholas Chunn and Anne Perkins.
- 7.50 **Book Choice.** Novelist and crime writer, Ruth Rendell, discusses *The Oxford Book of the Great Stories*, chosen by Michael Cox and R.A.Gilbert.
- 8.00 **Anne of Green Gables.** Episode one of a big part adaptation of Lucy Maud Montgomery's novel set in Canada at the turn of the century. Matthew Cuthbert, a spinster bachelor, lives with his spinster sister, Marilla, and I decided to adopt a young boy to help on the farm. But the orphanage makes a mistake and I end a mischievous red-headed girl, Anne Shirley, instead. She is desperate to come home and a tiring odyssey of non-stop chattering and the art of attracting trouble wherever she goes. Starring Megan Fellows, Richard

[illegible]

Peter O'Toole and Omar Sharif: two of the many stars in David Lean's *Lawrence of Arabia* (BBC2, 4.55pm)



Bob Dylan: tonight's Arena film was shot in Australia last year. He performs with Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers (BBC2, 9.00pm)

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3 seat Chester sofa from £495
£200 off normal price Cloe 4 seat sofa in
black leather - now £1195
20% off Heal's Thornbury range of Solid
Pine Dining Furniture
£100 off normal price Conway Sliding
Wardrobe in oak finish - now £479
15% off selected Childrens Bedroom Furniture

Big savings on shop soiled and slightly damaged furniture
Big reductions on discontinued Bedlinen, Tableware & Rug
25% off ceramic Lampbases and Vases in mixed spice colour
25% off selected Canteens of Cutlery
Big reductions on discontinued Fabrics
100% Cotton Furnishing Fabric from £4.95 per metre

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NOW ON

[illegible]

MF (medium wave), Stereo on WH-News on the hour (except
 10:00-11:00 a.m. weekdays, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, Sports Desk)
 1:05pm, 2:02, 3:02, 4:02, 5:05, 6:02
 (mfr only), 9:55
 O'Brien 7:30 Barry 5:30 Ray
 Moore 7:30 Bob Holness 3:30 Ken
 Bruce 11:00 Jimmy Young
 (legal problems arising)
 Andrews 1:05pm David
 Jacobs 2:00 Margie Perlin 3:30
 Mike O'Boe 5:05 John Dunn
 10:00 live from the radio
 Night is Music Night 6:45 Erles
 Jones at the piano 9:00 The
 Organist Entertains (with Nigel
 Ogden) 10:00 The Rockers with
 the violin and the Langhorn
 Orchestra 10:30 Living with Betty
 11:00 Peter Dickinson's Nightcap
 1:00am Janis Joplin presents
 Nightcap 2:00-4:00 A Little
 Night Music.

0.30 Newsweek; until (6.30) 7.00 News 7.00
Twenty-four Hours 7.30 Nashville Cats
7.30 The Sound of Music 8.00 The Sound of
Music 8.09 Reflections 8.15 Music of
Weber 8.30 Music Now 8.00 News 8.09
0.30 Financial News 8.05 A Story of Don
Kahn 10.00 News 10.01 Sing Along! 10.15
Jazz Masters 11.00 News 11.08 News
About Britain 11.15 to 11.20 Ireland (until 11.20)
11.20 News 11.25 News 12.15 Jazz Peel
for the Asping 12.45 Sports Round 12.50 John Peel
2.00 Outlook 2.45 Nature Notebook 3.00
Radio National 3.15; until 3.20 News
3.20 The World from London 3.30
0.00 News 4.00 Commentary 4.15 Science
in Action 4.40 World from London 4.50
News 5.00 News from London Inland (until
5.15) 5.00 News 5.08 Twenty-four Hours
5.30 Science in Action 5.35 Sports Round
5.40 News 6.00 News 6.00 News 6.00
News 10.00 The World Today 10.45
Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.08
Commentary 11.15 News 11.20
From London 11.30
News 11.35 News About Britain 12.15
Radio National 12.20 About Britain 12.45
News 12.50 News 12.55 News
Outlook 1.30 Sing Gospel 1.45 News
Minute 2.00 News 2.06 News of the
World 2.15 News 2.15 News
2.20 News 2.20 News
Britain 3.15 World Today 3.30 News 3.30
Hampel (until 4.45) 5.45 World Today.

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|-------|--|--|
| 7.05 | 6.55 Weather: 7.00 News Morning Concert: Bizet (Carmen suite No 1: RPO), Fauré (Piano Quartet No 1), Mendelssohn, Brindon, Wallisch and Jeremy Muenhin), Lalonde (Concert de trompettes: Jean-Francoise Paillard CD), 8.00 News | Mozart (Quartet in C major, K 157), and Quartet in C major, K 478 |
| 8.05 | Concert (continued) Debussy (Prélude Mazurka, Valse lente, from Coppélia: Sussie Romande Orchestra), Grandjean (El fandango de Candi: La maja y el ruiseño, Goyescas: Grandjean (Piano), Debussy (La boîte à joutoux: Basile SO), 8.00 News | 2.35 Orchestras of the World: Young Musicians SO (under James Bratt), with Nicolas Urewn, pianist Simeky-Korsakov (Russian Easter Festival Overture, Bartok (Piano Concerto No 2), Fenderick (Symphony No 2) |
| 8.05 | Week's Composers: Constant Lambert and friends. An all-Lambert edition. Music for Orchestra: BBC Philharmonic), Trois petites negroes pour piano (Blanche Basso, Lawson and Christopher Scott, piano duet); Anna Kerns suite (National PO), The Rio Grande (LSO, with London Madrigal Singers, Cristina Ortiz, piano, and Jean Temperey, piano) | 4.00 Church Evensong: from the Abbey, Church of St Mary the Virgin, Tewkesbury. A live transmission. 4.55 News |
| 10.00 | Langham Chamber Orchestra (under Enaquel Kurwitz), Boyce (Overture for the three contrabasses, K 100), and Haydn (Symphony No 8) | 5.00 Art and the Piano: recordings of works played by Liszt pupils. 5.45 The Banquet of Mendelssohn from the later songbooks published by John Playford in the 17th century. They include works by Giovanni Battista Draghi, Henry Hall, John Blow and Henry Purcell. Performed by the Parley of Instruments, Emily Van Eggers (soprano), Tessa Scott (soprano), Michael Rovers (tenor), Michael George (bass) |
| 10.35 | Of David and the Son of David: Amarel Gunton (mezzo) and Paul Hamburger (piano) perform settings of psalms and carols. Including works by Howells (King David, and Come and dance), Rubbra and Bax (including Five Fantasies on Polish Christmas carols Nos 1, 4 and 5) | 6.15 Tchaikovsky: BBC Philharmonic (under Dawson) performs the Mourning Symphony |
| 11.05 | BBC Welsh SO (under John Giesey), with Mark Kaplan (violin), Britten (Peter Grimes sea interludes), Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto) Schubert (Symphony No 9, 1.00 News | 7.15 Musical Times Special on Victorian music-making. 7.30 Arleen Auger and Daphn Bolwin: soprano and piano recital. Part one. Works by Schumann and Schubert (including Schumann's Frühling and 25 No 1, 1, and Schubert's Widt Ingegnauze, D 686 and Gretchen am Spinnrade, D 118) |
| 1.05 | Reynaldo Hahn: Daniel Adri (piano), plays Widmann 1, 3, 9, 4, 6, 10 and 15. Also Paysage: La promenade, Les regards amoureux, Les jours lancieux, March nuptiale and Spring Quartet | 8.05 Houseman on American Theatre Tour: fourth and final interview with John Houseman. 8.25 Soprano and piano recital. Part two. Works by Strauss (including Das Fenschen, Op 36 No 1, and Herz Lenz, Op 37 No 5), and Schoenberg Mozartophonic: the Kafka work, translated by Wills and Edwin Muir. With Tim Pigott-Smith and Christopher Parkbank in the cast. 9.1 |
| 1.40 | News | 9.00 Bernstein: Israel PO conducted by Bernstein perform Symphony No 2 |
| | | 11.00 Eastover: Piano Concerts: John Lill plays the No 27 and No 32 |
| | | 11.57 News, 12.00 Closedown |

On long wave

5.55 Shipping 5.00 News Briefing: 5.55 News 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Morning Travel (c) 6.57 Weather; Travel

7.00 Today
Presenter: John Humphrys, incl 7.00, 8.00 News 7.20 Business 7.25, 8.25 News 7.30 News Summary 7.45 Thought for the Day 7.55 Weather

8.30 Car's Whiskers.
Programmes for the under-12s, presented by Bernard Cribbins 8.57 Weather; Travel

9.00 News

9.05 With Great Pleasure. Roy Hattersley presents a selection of his favourite prose and poetry. The winners are Jess Ackland and Elizabeth Sell.

9.50 No Laughing Matter.
Margaret Horsfield. Stories thought to have the colour-blind.

10.00 News; International Assignment. BBC correspondents report from around the world.

10.20 Reading from the Menu.
Poems about food. With Diana Bishop and Richard Durden.

10.45 Wives of the Great Coaches. Fritz Spiegl (tells of the lovely Mrs Alma Maier).

11.00 News; Travel.
Peter Jackson, third and last part of the dramatization of the novel by Jane Austen. Starring as Sir Jackson as Anne and Tim Brierley as Frederick Wentworth (s).

12.00 News; Classic Feature.
4: Lower Depths. 1959
Irene van Lier. 1959
Irene van Lier, Turner, warden of the Norman House scheme for Homeless Offenders, presenting a view of the world of the destitute and down-and-out.

12.27 McCough and McCarthy.
Poet Roger McCough and comedian Pete McCarthy get together for Personal Fun (s) 12.55 Weather

1.00 The World At One

1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping

2.00 News; Woman's Hour with Jenni Murray. Including Jane Ewart-Biggs with past winners sold the Christopher Ewart-Biggs Memorial

Ward, And Jan Carey Reads The Archers. By Ruth Rendell.

3.00 News; Afternoon Play.
Dear Brutus. By Gail. With Alec McCowen as Barrie, and a cast including Michael Gilton (as Lord Tom Wilkinson and Joanne McCallum (s).

4.30 The Living World. Down at the Water Hole. A focus on the way many meeting places of the Hwange National Park in Zimbabwe.

5.00 PM News magazine.

5.30 The Good Woman.
Traditional tale of the Irish Dulsean, a headless person. Reader: Alingae Grehen. 5.50 Shipping 5.55 Weather

6.00 The Six O'Clock News

6.15 I've Been Together Now for 70 Years. Johnny Morris recalls his childhood in Wales. Last episode.

6.30 Going Places. Gine Jacobs presents consumer magazine about travel and transport.

7.00 News

7.05 The Archers

7.20 Pick Of The Week — Glyn Worsnip with a selection of the week's programmes (s)

8.20 Any Questions? Enoch Powell MP. Mgr Bruce Carr (vice-chancellor CND). Sir Alfred Sherman (writer and journalist) and Susan Thomas (Alliance County Councillor). From Great Misandrom Buckinghamshire. With John Timpon

9.00 Bamboo. 5: War Stories. Another account of life in Japan from David Bean.

9.15 The Failure of Hope. A story from India by Audrey Sen. Read by Meera Sirel

9.30 Letter From America by Alastair Cooke.

9.45 Setting Sail — winner of the 1986 Prix Italia for best radio documentary (s)

10.15 Ghost Story: The Tower, by Margherita Laski. Read by Jess Ackland 10.28 Weather

10.30 The World Tonight

11.00 News; England 12.30 Shipping

VHF (available in England and S Wales only) at above except: 5.55-6.00am Weather. Travel 5.55-6.00pm Listening Corner (s)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1:1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m;VHF-9: 92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF-92-95: LBC:1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF95.8; BBC Radio London: 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service: MF 648kHz/463m.

